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11 March 1986

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BRUNEI

BRIEFS

ENVOY TO NEW ZEALAND--The Brunei sultan appointed Mr Lim Jock Seng as Brunei's high commissioner to New Zealand at a ceremony in Bandar Seri Bagawan on 3 February. Mr Lim Jock Seng will retain his portfolio as director of ASEAN affairs at the Brunei Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
[Summary] [Kuala Belait BORNEO BULLETIN in English 8 Feb 86 p 2 BK]
/9274

CSO: 4200/725

BURMA

BRIEFS

AMBASSADOR TO ITALY APPOINTED--Rangoon, 10 Feb--The President of the Socialist Republic of the Union of Burma has appointed U San Maung as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Socialist Republic of the Union of Burma to the Republic of Italy. [Text] [Rangoon THE WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY in English 10 Feb 86 p 1 BK] /6662

JAPANESE GRANT, LOANS--Under the memoranda of understanding signed between Dr Maung Shein, deputy minister of planning and finance, and Mr Masao Tsukamoto, Japanese ambassador to Burma, at the conference hall of the Ministry of Planning and Finance this morning, the Japanese Government will provide the Burmese Government with a 349.922-million-yen grant--about 13.5 million kyat--and 36.15 billion yen--about 1.399 billion kyat--in the form of a loan in the fiscal year 1985-86. The grant will be utilized for the purchase of equipment needed for the television extension project. Of the total loan amount, 20.15 billion yen will be utilized for 5 projects--the South Nawin hydroelectric project, the natural gas power supply project in Rangoon, the caustic soda works project, Rangoon Airport Extension Project Phase III, and the telecommunications development project. Of the balance of 16 billion yen, which is in the form of a commodity loan, 11 billion yen will be utilized as general commodity loan and 5 billion yen will be for 4 industrial projects. [Excerpt] [Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 17 Feb 86 BK] /6662

CSO: 4211/30

INDONESIA

PAPER CONCERNED ABOUT ASIA-PACIFIC SITUATION

BK220949 Jakarta MERDEKA in Indonesian 17 Feb 86 p 5

[Editorial: "The Situation in Southeast Asia"]

[Text] The situation in Southeast Asia is moving rapidly following developments in the Philippines. The Philippine opposition has used the outcome of the election to foment new trouble in a country already facing communist and Muslim insurgencies. This is alarming.

With the Philippine crisis, the situation in Southeast Asia is becoming more serious as the Cambodian issue still has not been resolved despite new approaches by the United States and Vietnam toward the issue of American servicemen missing during the Vietnam War. The region is facing economic instability as a result of the economic recession, while competition among superpowers in Asia and the Pacific is contributing to instability in the region.

These factors have led to sharper ideological, economic, and military maneuvers here. In this connection, we need to study the concept of a Pacific economic and defense community designed to create a new political, economic, and military framework to preserve the vital interests of the superpowers, particularly the United States, in East Asia and the Pacific.

We should view as "political childishness" the policy of the Philippine opposition in sacrificing the Philippines' unity and integrity to avenge its defeat by Marcos. From a geopolitical and geostrategic standpoint, this policy could ignite turmoil in the Philippines and upset stability in Southeast Asia. Instability will in turn provide internal forces with a pretext to step in and "protect" East Asia and the Pacific, as a result of which the independence and freedom of countries in this vast region will be compromised.

International forces are exploiting the economic difficulties of Asia-Pacific countries. They could tie their new assistance program with certain conditions and dangerous political fait-accompli. Efforts to create an international defense umbrella stretching from Western Europe to the Asia-Pacific region have been reflected in the Western politico-military scheme for this region. Diplomatic maneuvers, pressure, and persuasion have been consistently stepped up in recent years.

Accordingly, one may question the linkage of the U.S. decision to sell F-16 fighters to Indonesia, Thailand, and Singapore and efforts to overthrow Marcos in the Philippines with the political future of this part of the world. We also wonder what President Ronald Reagan will discuss with President Suharto in Bali next April.

The situation in Southeast Asia is evolving into a stage which will prompt people to think that Southeast Asia as a theater of competition among international forces is being turned into an arena of more serious conflicts. The present crisis in the Philippines confirms the correctness of the thesis of the ideological contradiction and collision of foreign interests in the region. This will merely result in a tragedy for the people of the region.

/9274

CSO: 4213/102

INDONESIA

PALAPA B-3 RENAMED; PLANS WITH NASA RECONFIRMED

BK111029 Jakarta ANTARA in English 1010 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] Jakarta, 11 Feb (ANTARA)--Indonesian domestic satellite Palapa B-3 scheduled for launching by the National Aeronautics Space Agency of America on 24 June has changed its name into Palapa B-2P (successor), Minister of Post, Telecommunication and Tourism Achmad Tahir has said.

Speaking at a plenary session with the House Commission V dealing with communication at Senayan Parliament Tuesday, the minister said that with the change of name it would show that Indonesia has only recorded two satellites.

According to the plan Indonesia would only possess two Palapa satellites of the B generation. Nevertheless, due to the recent accidental failing of the Palapa B-2 reaching its orbit, Palapa B-2P had to replace it immediately, Achmad Tahir said.

The Indonesian domestic communication system of Palapa constituted a utilization of the advanced space technology which was already owned by Indonesia. With the system Indonesia has speeded up realization of the archipelago conception with satisfactory results.

Two major Indonesian programs with were still unchanged to date the participation of its astronauts, Dr Pratiwi Sudharmono and Dr. Taufik Akbar in the next U.S. space shuttle and the launching of Palapa B-2P satellite [sentence as received].

Minister Achmad Tahir has also expressed condolences to the people and the government of the United States in connection with the failure in the blast off of the Challenger space shuttle on 28 January.

On the telecommunications sub-sector, Achmad Tahir said that Indonesia had made great headway in the first year of Repelita IV 5-year plan.

Some 106 cities have now been connected with a long distance direct line. Indonesia to date has direct connections with 74 cities in the world through international directline.

/9604

CSO: 4200/714

INDONESIA

SUHARTO ON ASTRONAUTS, COMMUNICATIONS SATELLITES

BK201129 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0951 GMT 20 Feb 86

[Text] Jakarta, 20 Feb (ANTARA)--The SKSD (Domestic Satellite Communication System) will be further developed in Indonesia, because the system has proved to be useful in reaching all parts of the country, President Suharto said here Thursday when he received the two Indonesian candidate astronauts, Pratiwi Sudharmono and Taufik Akbar, at the presidential residence at Jalan Cendana in connection with their forthcoming departure to the U.S. to undergo training at the NASA Center in Houston.

The two astronauts were accompanied by Minister of Tourism, Post and Telecommunication Akhmad Tahir as well as by Post and Telecommunication Director General Abdurrahman as the mission director, LIPI (Indonesian Institute of Sciences) Chairman Dr Doddy Tisna Amidjaja as chairman of the preparatory team in the field of research and Brigadier General (Ret) Hardiyono as mission deputy director.

The president further pointed out that periodically Indonesia would continue to need the communication satellites, the manufacture of the satellites and their launching vehicles should however not continuously be ordered from other countries.

At a certain moment the Indonesian nations [as received] should be capable of producing its own satellites and launching vehicles. This is our sincere hope, the president had said as was disclosed by Minister Akhmad Thair to newsmen after the meeting.

The Indonesian head of state further expected from the two astronauts to carry out the training program as best as possible, because sound training would guarantee the successful implementation of their task in the coming Columbia shuttle flight. During this flight the "Palapa B-2 successor" will be launched as well as several laboratory tests conducted.

Asked by newsmen, Pratiwi said that as astronaut designate she is ready and will carry out her state task in the best possible manner.

Taufik Akbar, who will back-up Pratiwi will undergo the same training to achieve similar capabilities. Taufik, although not participating in the flight to outer space, will give Pratiwi the necessary assistance from the ground.

They are scheduled to leave for the U.S. on 27 February and start training in Houston on 3 or 4 March. The training will last three to four months.

Asked by newsmen, Minister Akhmad Tahir said that he was continuously following the research development of the reserach commission on the cause of the Challenger shuttle explosion.

On the schedule of the Palapa satellite launching through Columbia, according to Tahir, will completely be entrusted to NASA.

Meanwhile the test samples for the outer space laboratory have been sent to the U.S.

/9274

CSO: 4200/722

INDONESIA

DECISION ON NUCLEAR PLAN EXPECTED THIS SUMMER

HK160826 Hong Kong AFP in English 0653 GMT 16 Feb 86

[Article by Jacques Guillon]

[Text] Jakarta, 16 Feb (AFP)--Indonesia will decide this summer whether to "go nuclear," opening its market to bids from a host of firms all eager to build the first Indonesian nuclear power plant, a top energy official here said.

"The feasibility study for the construction of a nuclear power plant is to be completed in April, and the government will then choose whether or not to introduce the nuclear technology in June or July," Indonesia's National Nuclear Energy Agency (Batam) Director Jali Ahimsa told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE.

"In the event that we get a positive response, we will set the requirements for the plant we need and we will open the door for offers," he said.

Diplomats here said the Indonesian Government would almost certainly decide in favor of nuclear power and that the only question remaining was when work would begin on the first reactor.

"The site for the first plant has already been chosen--Jepara, on the north coast of Java (about 400 kilometers, or 250 miles east of Jakarta)," one Western diplomat said.

"The research and technology minister has said he hopes that in 2005 a third of the country's electricity needs (about 7,000 megawatts out of 21,000) would be met with nuclear power," he added.

"The only unknown is the starting date for construction. The domestic financial situation, badly hit by the slump in oil prices, will also play a major role," he said.

The Indonesians have expressed interest in a 600-megawatt nuclear reactor at various gatherings, and six countries have begun campaigning for the first contract at a time when the market for nuclear power plant construction is flooded with producers.

Observers here say West Germany was the first to come out ahead of its competitors with a contract awarded to the firm Interatom GmbH in 1979 to build a 30-megawatt reactor for research purposes at Serpong, not far from here. The West German reactor is slated to begin functioning this year.

But the other five countries in the running, including the United States, Japan, France, Canada and Italy, all signed research agreements with Indonesia to make use of the reactor, thus shaving a bit off West Germany's lead.

Italy was next to win a round when the Italian firm Nira was assigned to conduct a feasibility study for a nuclear plant.

Observers here said the favorites were probably Canada, which has sold heavy water reactors to India and South Korea, and France, which is fresh from successful negotiations with China to supply reactors for the 1,000-megawatt capacity nuclear power plant to be built at Daya Bay in southern China.

The United States, on the other hand, stands little chance of being chosen, according to several Batam engineers. They cited the construction by Westinghouse of a 620-megawatt reactor in the Philippines as an example of "everything you should not do, given the delays in construction and starting up the plant, the costs and the polemics on factory safety."

The competition is made all the keener by the potential size of the Indonesian market.

However, many experts say the Research and Technology Ministry's aim of constructing seven 1,000-megawatt plants at an estimated cost of 1.7 billion dollars each by 2005 is unattainable.

Construction delays for such plants average around 7 years, and Indonesia has already said repeatedly it would hold off starting up the first plant rather than beginning a long series of construction projects.

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CSO: 4200/714

INDONESIA

JOINT ECONOMIC COMMISSION WITH BULGARIA SET UP

BK211621 Jakarta ANTARA in English 1603 GMT 21 Feb 86

[Excerpt] Jakarta, 21 Feb (ANTARA)--Indonesia and Bulgaria here Friday signed documents on the setting up of a joint commission on economic cooperation between the two countries.

Atomo Suryo, director general for Foreign Economic Relations of the Foreign Office, and Yuliy Banknev, Bulgarian ambassador to Indonesia, signed and exchanged the document on behalf of their respective governments.

The signing and exchange of the documents marked the implementation of a protocol on talks about trade and economic cooperation between the two countries signed in Sofia on 19 April, 1985, when the Indonesian coordinating minister for economic, financial and industrial affairs, Professor Ali Wardhana, visited Bulgaria from 17 to 29 April, 1985.

The aim of the setting up of the joint commission is to extend the existing bilateral economic cooperation between the two nations.

The commission has a function to review progress of the implementation of agreements between the two countries in the fields of trade and economics. In addition the commission will also identify other fields in order to encourage further promotion of trade and economic cooperation, and work out recommendations to be submitted to authorized agencies of the two governments.

On the occasion, Ambassador Yuliy Bahnev said that his country is eager to import textiles, cotton, leather goods, tropical timber, tin, tobacco and essential oils from Indonesia, besides traditional commodities such as natural rubber, spices, coffee and tea.

Bulgaria, he went on, highly appreciates President Suharto's statement on 16 August, 1984, on Jakarta willingness to enhance economic relations with Eastern European countries.

The joint commission constitutes a main inter-government agency to coordinate and carry out policies of the two governments, he concluded.

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CSO: 4200/722

INDONESIA

ARMY MAJOR SACKED FOR PAST COMMUNIST TIES

HK210554 Hong Kong AFP in English 0530 GMT 21 Feb 86

[Text] Jakarta, 21 Feb (AFP)--An army major has been discharged and stripped of his military ranks in Denpasar, Bali, for alleged past ties with the banned Indonesian Communist Party (PKI), a newspaper said here today.

The former chief of a military district command, identified only by his initials S.S. was discovered in 1984 to have been a member of PKI before it was banned after an abortive communist coup in 1965, the daily MERDEKA said.

It said the discharge was based on a presidential order, which had classified the major's involvement with the banned party as "B-2"--a classification given to people who have proven to have indirectly [been] involved in the coup.

Major General D. Sutarto, a regional military commander, said Wednesday that the move showed the army's strict commitment to execute the law in the interest of the nation, the paper said.

It added that the expelled major has renewed his allegiance to the state by taking an oath before returning to civilian life.

More than 20 years after the failed coup, the communist issue is still a sensitive one in Indonesia, and government officials have been regularly denouncing the dangers and threats of possible communist resurgence.

/9274

CSO: 4200/722

INDONESIA

ATTORNEY GENERAL ON ANTICORRUPTION MEASURES

BK120805 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0744 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Jakarta, 12 Feb (ANTARA)--The losses suffered by the government due to corruption and manipulation during the 1983-1985 period totalled around Rp 277 billion, but only Rp 24.5 billion of it has been secured back, Attorney General Hari Suharto disclosed Tuesday.

Before a working meeting with Commission III of Parliament, Hari Suharto elaborated that his office had during this period handled 454 cases of subversion, 3,716 cases of corruption, 1,122 cases of smuggling, 60 cases of territorial violation and 1,629 cases of narcotics.

The attorney general said the Prosecution Office's effort to uphold the law is meant more than to reveal and bring the cases into trial but to create a positive impact as preventive measures in curbing criminal acts. [sentence as received]

Concerning the target of control, he said it would be sharpened by the supervision on the aspect of efficiency, particularly on budgetary expenditures.

He also noted that during 1984, some 272 employees at the Prosecution Office had been given disciplinary measures comprising 107 employees imposed with light penalties, 73 with disciplinary penalties and the rest with heavy penalties, while during 1985, some 382 employees had received sanctions comprising 107 light penalties, 80 and 132 receiving moderate and heavy penalties. "Such penalties are expected to gradually create a clean and respected apparatus at the Prosecution Office," he said.

/9604

CSO: 4200/714

INDONESIA

BRIEFS

SWEDISH ENVOY PRESENTS CREDENTIALS--Jakarta, 12 Feb (ANTARA)--President Suharto here Wednesday expressed his happiness to hear of the willingness of the Kingdom of Sweden to step up and develop friendly relations and economic cooperation with Indonesia. Speaking after receiving letter of credentials of the new Swedish ambassador to Indonesia, Karl Goran Thorvald, at the Merdeka Presidential Palace here, President Suharto further said that Indonesia is fully aware of the importance of establishing cooperation with other nations in an effort to accelerate the current national development program. [Excerpt] [Jakarta ANTARA in English 0520 GMT 12 Feb 86] /9604

LIQUIFIED NATURAL GAS EXPORTS--Jakarta, 8 Feb (ANTARA)--Indonesia has been the biggest liquefied natural gas (LNG) exporter in the world reaching a total of 17.16 billion cubic meters or 37.9 percent of the world's LNG export, according to data of the state owned oil and gas company LERTAMINA released here Saturday. [Excerpt] [Jakarta ANTARA in English 1554 GMT 8 Feb 86] /9604

MUSLIM NEWSLETTER EDITOR JAILED--Jakarta, 14 Feb (AFP)--A court in central Java has given an editor of a now-banned Moslem newsletter a 13-year jail term for subversion, the daily SINAR HARAPAN reported today. The daily said a district court in Jogjakarta yesterday found Irfan Suryahardi, 23, guilty of subversion and of having through involvement in various organizations aspired to create an Islamic state in Indonesia. The court also found him guilty of publishing seditious writings in the AL IKHWAN BULLETIN between 1979 and 1983, the paper said. One of the BULLETIN'S issues carrying an article entitled "Speech of Ayatollah Khomeini"--Iran's religious leader--was viewed by the court as "fanning a revolutionary spirit to overthrow governments which were not based on Islam," the daily said. When copies of the BULLETIN were first seized in October 1983, Indonesian intelligence officers said they had uncovered a plot to overthrow the government and that a Middle East country was suspected of involvement. The prosecution had earlier demanded a 15-year jail sentence for the editor of the BULLETIN, which had a total circulation of 10,000. [Text] [Hong Kong AFP in English 1228 GMT 14 Feb 86] /9604

AUSTRALIAN PATROL BOAT HANDED OVER--Jakarta, 14 Feb (ANTARA)--The commander of the Indonesian armada for the Eastern region, Rear Admiral Gatot Suwardi on behalf of the Navy recently received a patrol boat of the "Attack" class from Australian Armada Commander Rear Admiral Ian Knox, acting for the Royal Australian Navy [RAN]. The patrol boat, the eighth handed over by RAN to the Indonesian Navy in the past 12 years, was dubbed "Sigurot." [Excerpts] [Jakarta ANTARA in English 1530 GMT 14 Feb 86 BK] /9274

NEW SPANISH SERVICE ANNOUNCED--The Voice of Indonesia, the international service of Radio Republic of Indonesia, will begin a Spanish service in the near future. The director general of radio, television, and film said in Jakarta that Radio Republic of Indonesia will broadcast in 10 languages with the introduction of the Spanish service. [Summary] [Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 1200 GMT 12 Feb 86 BK] /9274

AGREEMENT ON GEOLOGY SIGNED--An Indonesian-Canadian agreement on cooperation in the expansion of geological studies was signed in Jakarta on 14 February. Indonesia was represented by Mr Kartidi, director general of geology and natural resources of the Mining and Energy Department, while Canada was represented by its ambassador to Indonesia, Mr Maldwyn Thomas. Minister for Mining and Energy Subroto and Canadian Minister for International Trade, Mr James Kelleher witnessed the signing of the agreement. [Summary] [Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 1200 GMT 14 Feb 86 BK] /9274

NONOIL, NONGAS EXPORTS --Indonesia earned U.S. \$5.695 billion from nonoil and nongas exports in 1985 as against U.S. \$5.776 billion the previous year. Bank Indonesia disclosed that the decline was partly attributed to the falling prices of Indonesian nonoil and nongas commodities in the international market. [Summary] [Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 0700 GMT 12 Feb 86 BK] /9274

CSO: 4213/102

LAOS

VIENTIANE REPORTS PROGRESS ON 'STRATEGIC' HIGHWAY

BK190437 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 1200 GMT 17 Feb 86

[Report: "Achievements of Highway 9 Construction Unit in 1985"]

[Summary] "The 250-km-long Highway 9 is the LPDR's strategic route leading eastward to the sea and serves as a link for economic and trade relations, import, and export between Laos and various fraternal socialist countries and friendly countries around the world. After some work the highway has basically been hard-surfaced with earth, and 10 percent has been asphalted. Out of 33 bridges to be built, 8 have been completed and 6 others are being built--such as in Houai Lai, Houai Ko, Houai Gnapheut, Houai Saloum, Houai (Takki) and Houai (Tadin). Even though the construction work has not been completed, this highway can facilitate smooth communications and transportation throughout the year."

In addition to Laos' budget and manpower, various fraternal socialist countries, such as the Soviet Union, have provided assistance through experts, funds, material, and equipment.

"What is noteworthy is that, as part of the movement to share weal and woe, on Highway 9 fraternal Vietnamese workers are working side by side with Lao workers to build the highway, and have made splendid achievements and successes." Comrade (Sommat Phonsena), deputy chief of the highway unit, told our correspondent:

[Begin recording] We have fulfilled the plan adopted by the ministry. For example, "we have completed asphaltting a 20-km stretch of the highway--10 percent of the whole length." In addition, in building Highway 9, we have enjoyed the cooperation and assistance of various friendly countries in the socialist community, "such as the SRV, which has completed the construction of a 44-km stretch of the route from the Laos-Vietnam border to Sepone." Our Vietnamese friends are now continuing to build another stretch in accordance with the agreement signed between the two governments.

"Moreover, the Soviet Union has provided considerable assistance by supplying equipment and vehicles to five road construction units and one bridge construction unit. The Soviet Union continues to supply equipment and vehicles to our country as assistance. What is more precious is that the Soviet Union has sent skillful experts to work and share weal and woe with our cadres and workers. At the same time, the Hungarian People's Republic has assisted our country in building the Sechamphon bridge." Other bridges are being built with the assistance of Bulgaria, the CSSR, and the Soviet Union. [end recording]

LAOS

MEKONG RIVER PATROL COMMANDER ON LAO FORCES

BK161018 Bangkok First Army Division Radio in Thai 2300 GMT 14 Feb 86

[From "Army Meets the People" program: Recorded Statement by Captain Bamrung Khaorat, Commander of the Mekong River Patrol Operation Unit, During Recent Briefing on the Situation Along the Thai-Lao Border for Bangkok Mass Media Representatives--date and place not given]

[Excerpts] Next I would like to inform you about the general situation in the northeastern region. First, I will talk about the deployment of Vietnamese and Lao troops now confronting our Mekong River Patrol Operation Unit. One Lao infantry division each in Vientiane, Savannakhet, and Champassak provinces; one Vietnamese infantry division and one infantry regiment in Vientiane Province, one Vietnamese infantry division each in Bolikhamsai, Khammouane, and Savannakhet Provinces. These are the forces which confront us.

Laos also has a naval force [words indistinct] equivalent to our Mekong River Patrol Operation Unit. We might call it the Lao Mekong River Patrol Operation Unit [words indistinct]. The unit operates from Chinaimo and Maknao Naval Stations in Vientiane, (Houan Kuan) and Pak Ngum on the Nam Ngum River, Na Kham station in Bolikhamsai, Thakhek Station in Khammouane opposite Nakhon Phanom Province, Na Ke Station in Savannakhet, and Pakse Station in Champassak Province. Regarding the Lao Air Force, Laos has deployed its forces at various airfields. This is very interesting because they are near us. There are as many as 27 MIG-20 aircraft at Wattai Airport which is also the command headquarters of the Lao Air Force. Other air bases are Phonsavan Airport in Xieng Khouang Province and Seno Airport in Savannakhet Province. These fields can pose a serious threat to us.

The next topic is the development of Laos' military force after it had problems with us. The Soviet Union plans to give 40 new (?PTR) boats to Laos. These are similar to our patrol boats in terms of performance efficiency. There are eight such boats stationed at Thakhek opposite Nakhon Phanom [words indistinct]. This is a photo of the boats. Moreover, the Soviet Union has also repaired seven (?PTR) boats left behind by the United States. These boats are the same as ours and will be sent to other naval stations.

The Phonsavan Airport has been renovated. [Words indistinct] flight training here has caused frequent violation of our airspace as reported by the press.

However, we have observed that the Lao pilots do not deliberately encroach on our territory. Moreover, SAM-3 missiles have also been installed at Wattai Airport for the defense of the airport. The situation from this side, as far as the aerial threat is concerned, does not show a good trend, but we have weapons, including anti-aircraft artillery, to counter or intercept any intrusion. We have aircraft at all airports to take action if the other side should launch any air operations against us and to support our Mekong River Patrol Operation Unit.

/12232

CSO: 4206/70

LAOS

FEATURE ON ASIAN BUDDHIST CONFERENCE

BK170449 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 1400 GMT 10 Feb 86

["Feature article": "Asian Buddhist Organization for Peace"]

[Text] The LPDR has been honored to host the seventh general assembly of the Asian Buddhist Conference in Vientiane in mid-February. This organization was established in Manzhouli in 1969 to assist various countries in Asia, for example, the three Indochinese countries, in resolving political problems, preventing the outbreak of a war in Asia, and firmly safeguarding peace. The first six general assemblies of this peace organization was held thrice in Mongolia and in India, Sri Lanka, and Japan.

In 1986--The International Year for Peace, the sixth general assembly agreed to convene its seventh conference in Indochina and the Indochinese countries agreed to hold it in the capital of Vientiane. Our party and state concurred and regarded the decision as a great honor for our country.

We know well that over the past 10 years various fundamental rights of the Lao people of all ethnic minorities have been completely implemented. These rights include equality and freedoms of speech and write as well as freedoms of belief and domicile. Buddhism was once an important factor for educating and training Buddhist followers to worship and respect the right things and avoid the wrong things. It teaches everyone to respect and unite with one another and join in following the correct path adopted by the party and state. For this reason, the majority of the Lao people are closely associated with Buddhism and the new regime which has always supported the revolution and the tasks of Buddhist monks and believers.

In the long, 30-year national liberation struggle against the French and U.S. imperialist aggression, Lao Buddhist monks and novices played a very important role. Thousands of patriotic, progressive, and peace and justice-loving Buddhist monks vigorously took part in the revolution and in the struggle against the imperialist war of aggression and for peace, independence, freedom, and social progress under the leadership of the LPRP. They became outstanding propaganda combatants and were capable of mobilizing a large number of Lao working people to unite and join the national liberation revolution.

Over the past 10 years the Buddhist monks have continued to carry out their duties in accordance with the correct policies and line of the LPRP. Our Lao Buddhist monks have introduced the political, economic, cultural, and social policies of the party and state, together with Buddhist teachings, to the masses. In addition, Buddhist monks have served as school teachers and traditional doctors.

Regarding their international relations, the Lao Buddhist monks have set up their own international organization named the Lao Asian Buddhist Organization for Peace. Based on this organization, the Lao monks have positively contributed to the struggle for peace and against a nuclear war by sending its delegations to participate in many international conferences.

The entire Lao Buddhist believers are proud to have contributed to the overall tasks of the country under the leadership of our party and state, thus effectively contributing to the cause of defending and building our socialist fatherland.

/12232

CSO: 4206/70

LAOS

ASIAN BUDDHISTS' CONFERENCE ENDS, SUPPORTS USSR

BK141411 Vientiane KPL in English 0928 GMT 14 Feb 86

[Text] Vientiane, 14 February (KPL)--The Seventh General Conference of the Asian Buddhist Conference for Peace (ABCP) has called on all followers of Buddha to support the USSR programme for the total elimination of all nuclear weapons from the face of the earth. The proposals of Mikhail Gorbachev were in full accord with the aspirations of the Buddhists to live in peace and with the teachings of Lord Buddha. A relevant resolution adopted by the conference on Friday after 3 days of deliberations in Vientiane says

It is our profound belief that the implementation of this programme would substantially improve the world situation including the situation in Asia and the Pacific, and eliminate the nuclear and chemical danger in the world, the resolution says. It would also make it possible to put to use material and intellectual resources for social and economic development and for combatting hunger and disease everywhere.

In a Vientiane declaration, adopted unanimously, the participants declare: There is no more important, more noble and more pressing task today than to prevent a global nuclear catastrophe. Such a threat could only be removed by common, resolute efforts of all peace-loving people. The conference demands outlawing and destruction of both the nuclear and chemical weapons.

The declaration calls on the Buddhists to make people aware that a very small group of arms manufacturers earning huge profits from this business, threaten peace on earth and cause fresh sufferings and deprivations to millions of ordinary people which is immoral and inadmissible in a civilised society. The world annually spends over 1 trillion dollars on the arms race while more than 400 million people in the developing countries annually suffer and die of hunger and disease and 30 percent of children do not have an opportunity to go for schooling.

The Buddhists demand the removal of all foreign military bases from Asia and the adjacent oceans as well as the establishment of zones of peace, stability, cooperation and good neighbourhood whenever possible.

The conference also adopted in the special resolution a comprehensive action programme providing among others for signature collecting campaigns, peace marches and seminars.

LAOS

ASIAN BUDDHISTS SEND MESSAGE TO LAO BUDDHISTS

BK141431 Vientiane KPL in English 0918 GMT 14 Feb 86

[Text] Vientiane, 14 February (OANA-KPL)--The Seventh ABCP General Conference in Vientiane has issued on its message to the Lao Buddhist reported that the general conference held on 12-14 February, 2528 of the Buddhist era [1986] proceeded in a noble spirit of deep harmony, solidarity, loving-kindness and cordiality. [paragraph as received]

The participants to the general conference, reads the message, were of the unanimous view that the arms race, especially the nuclear arms race and the Star Wars programme are the main cause of world tension and a serious threat to the life of sentient beings.

As human beings sharing the same planet, the participants in the ABCP General Conference urge the leaders of the nuclear powers to avoid any act that is harmful to the life of human beings and the civilization which had been built up through many millenaries and to turn towards sincere dialogue for peaceful settlements in view of saving this planet from the catastrophes of all kind of wars of aggression, nuclear and Star Wars. The conference congratulates all initiatives from world leaders related to the moratorium on nuclear essays, for disarmament to eradication of nuclear weapon arsenals for the safeguard of world peace, for peaceful co-existence between the peoples in friendship and ture cooperation in equity.

The message evaluates the Lao Buddhists' task in building Laos as follows:

The perservering efforts exerted by the Lao Buddhists in their cooperation with the administration for the nation's development and the renovation of temples, and the spreading of morale which accords with the epoch, are most precious deeds which contribute to the preservation of peace and the civilization of the Lao society.

An important factor of the fine success of this Seventh ABCP General Conference is the support of the government of the LPDR, the Lao Front for National Construction, the Lao Buddhist Fellowship Organization [LBFO] and the material and spiritual contribution in Buddhist faith of all the Lao Buddhists. On this auspicious occasion, we the delegates of the Asian Buddhists for peace to this seventh general conference wish to express our heartfelt thanks to the government of the LPDR, the LFNC, the LBFO and all the Lao Buddhists for their contribution and support thus ensuring the success of the conference, the message of the general conference concludes.

11 March 1986

LAOS

ABCP THANKS SOUPHANOUVONG

BK141429 Vientiane KPL in English 0912 GMT 14 Feb 86

[Text] Vientiane, 14 February (OANA-KPL)--The participants of the seventh general conference of the Asian Buddhist Conference for Peace currently held here conveyed a message of thanks to President Souphanouvong. The message wrote:

We the participants in the seventh general conference of the Asian Buddhist Conference for Peace--a voluntary mass movement of the true followers and disciples of Lord Buddha, express our deep gratitude to Your Excellency Mr President, and through you to the government of the LPDR and the Lao people for the warm greetings and best wishes addressed to us. Your message once again reaffirms the aspirations and resolve of the people and the government of the LPDR to preserve and strengthen universal peace and security, and to ensure a happy life on earth.

While attending our general conference in Vientiane the capital of your beautiful country, we have witnessed the remarkable progress made by your people during a short period of 10 years time in condition of peace, friendship and cooperation following the proclamation of the LPDR. We, the peaceloving Buddhists, express our deep appreciation to the government of the LPDR and to the Lao National Preparatory Committee for the generous assistance and support rendered to our movement and for providing excellent conditions for our work thus making the conference a great success. It is specially significant that the general conference of our movement is being held in the International Year of Peace and we hope that this year will mark a turning point in consolidating the ideals of peace and good neighbourly relations among states.

Following teachings of Lord Buddha on the lofty ideals of human dignity, loving kindness and compassion for all living beings we, the participants of the ABCP Seventh General Conference unanimously express our determination to do the utmost to safeguard the most sacred right of people--the right to the peaceful life so that peace, justice and harmony prevail on our planet.

/12232

CSO: 4200/710

LAOS

VIENTIANE RALLY HAILS SUCCESS OF PEACE CONFERENCE

BK151053 Vientiane KPL in English 0909 GMT 15 Feb 86

[Text] Vientiane, 15 February (OANA-KPL)--A 2,000 strong-mass rally, including 1,000 monks was held here yesterday afternoon to celebrate the success of the seventh general conference of the Asian Buddhist Conference for Peace (ABCP) which was ended yesterday after 3 days of sitting.

In his speech, Singkapo Kikhotchounamali, president of the Lao Committee for World Peace, Solidarity and Friendship with People highly evaluated the active contribution of the ABCP members in the struggle for the safeguard of peace.

Over the past period, said the speaker, ABCP has extended strong support to the just struggle of the Lao people as well as the other peoples of Indochina, to make the Southeast Asian region a zone of genuine peace, stability, friendship and cooperation thus contributing to the safeguard of peace and stability in Asia and the Pacific and in the rest of the world.

The speaker continued:

"The ABCP 7th general conference bears particular importance as it meets the resolution of the 40th UN General Assembly of last year, declaring 1986 the International Year of Peace. It creates steering atmosphere to welcome the world assembly of the World Peace Council in Copenhagen, Denmark, next October.

"At the same time, it greatly arouses the Lao Buddhists and people to pursue their just tasks such as to eliminate poverty, backwardness, bringing about prosperity to the multi-ethnic people, and simultaneously, to, together with the peoples of Vietnam and Kampuchea, collectively contribute to the safeguard of peace, stability, friendship and cooperation in this region and in the rest of the world."

The Lao peace president stressed: "I do hope that the monks, Buddhists and people of our country will disseminate the decisions of this rally to the public at large in view of strengthening solidarity among the Lao buddhist and people in their contribution to the safeguard of peace, justice and the existence of mankind," S. SIKHOTCHOUNAMALI concluded.

Also taking floor at the meeting, the Most Venerable Khambo Lama Gaadan, president of the ABCP recalled the successful work done by the seventh ABCP sessions during the 3 days of sitting (12 to 14 February).

Gaadan continued: "We can say that the ABCP Seventh General Conference has marked a new milestone in the movement of Asian Buddhists for peace and will give a new impetus to the joint fight of Buddhists for tranquillity and peace.

"We appeal to Buddhists to take an active part in carrying the general conference decisions into effect, and in the struggle for peace and happiness.

"May the wholesome actions triumph in peace and justice. Let the fully enlightened great teaching of Lord Buddha bless us in this sacred cause," he concluded.

The meeting also appealed the ABCP headquarters to actively lead the followers and believers of Lord Buddha to take part in the peace movement.

The Vientiane declaration adopted at the recent Seventh ABCP Conference and its greetings message to the Lao Buddhist and the world people were also read out to the gathering.

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CSO: 4200/710

LAOS

KPL DIRECTOR RETURNS FROM PHNOM PENH CONFERENCE

BK121115 Vientiane KPL in English 0915 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Vientiane, 12 February (OANA-KPL)--Bouteng Vongsai, the director general of the Lao News Agency (KPL), on 10 February, returned home from the third conference of the Indochinese news agencies' general directors held in Phnom Penh from 29 January to 3 February. The minutes signed on 3 February by Bounteng Vongsai, director general of KPL (Laos), Em Saman, director general of SPK (Kampuchea) and Dao Tung, director general of VNA (Vietnam), highly evaluated the trilateral and bilateral cooperation among the three agencies, the coordination in international field, and the joint information policy to match the defamatory campaigns carried out by the enemies.

The director generals of the agencies also concluded bilateral cooperation agreements for 1986-87.

The conference also exchanged views on the progress in communication technology and discussed plan aiming at keeping themselves up to date with all other agencies.

The three Indochinese agencies also agreed to intensify their cooperation and coordination in the information policy and in international activities. By implementing the decision of the three parties CCs' Propaganda and Training Commission, the agencies agreed to publish a trimester revue friendship in all the three Indochinese languages in order to inform the public on the policies, development and defense of Laos, Kampuchea, and Vietnam.

The three director generals also pledged to give all efforts in the preparation of the conference of director generals of socialist news agencies to be hosted by VNA at the end of this year.

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CSO: 4200/710

LAOS

BRIEFS

PARTY SCHOOL DELEGATION RETURNS--Vientiane, 5 February (KPL)--A delegation of the higher party school led by its deputy director, Sileua Bounkham, was back home yesterday from the Soviet Union. While there, the Lao delegation attended a seminar on the three basic documents to be adopted by the 27th Congress of the CPSU. It also participated in the conference discussing about the statement of General Secretary M. Gorbachev. Both meetings were held in Moscow. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0904 GMT 5 Feb 86 BK] /12232

DELEGATIONS TO BUDDHIST CONFERENCE--Vientiane, 7 February (KPL)--A delegation of the Asian Buddhist Conference for peace [ABCP] led by its vice-president, Most Venerable Dr Thich Minh Chau, arrived here yesterday to attend the seventh conference of the ABCP scheduled to be held in Vientiane soon. A delegation of the Korean Buddhist Federation led by its president, Pak Tae-ho, also arrived here on the same day for the same purpose. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0907 GMT 7 Feb 86 BK] /12232

TRADE AGREEMENT WITH SRV--Vientiane, 10 February (OANA-KPL)--The Lao Vientiane Province and Hai Hung Province of Vietnam are to increase their trade exchange this current year. This was stated in the agreement came out during the visit of the Lao Vientiane trade delegation to its sister province of Hai Hung at the end of last month. [sentence as received] According to the agreement previously signed in Vientiane, the Lao Vientiane Province had delivered a quantity of plywood and corrugated iron-sheets against 250 [metric] tons of cement and 6,000 jute sacks supplied by the Vietnamese side. Vietnamese is also understood to deepen its trade exchange with Hanoi, Ho Chi Minh City and Hai Phong Province of Vietnam. [sentence as received] [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0907 GMT 10 Feb 86 BK] /12232

FINANCE MINISTER VISITS PRK--Vientiane, 11 February (KPL)--A delegation of the Finance Ministry led by its Minister Gnao Phonvantha, left here yesterday for the People's Republic of Kampuchea. During its stay the delegation is to sign the 1986-87 agreement on economic and finance cooperation between the two countries. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0907 GMT 11 Feb 86 BK] /12232

SOUPHANOUVONG GREET'S PDRY COUNTERPART--Vientiane, 15 February (KPL)--Souphanouvong, president of the People's Supreme Assembly of the Lao PDR extended his congratulation to Haydar Abu Bakr al-'attas upon his being elected as the president of the Presidium of the People's Supreme Council of the People's Democratic

Republic of Yemen. Souphanouvong expressed firm conviction that the fraternal people of the PDRY will score greater successes in the safeguarding of national independence and revolutionary fruits. Souphanouvong wished for the furtherance of the existing relations of militant solidarity between the two governments and peoples. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0901 GMT 15 Feb 86 BK] /12232

PHOMVIHAN VISITS SEKONG PROVINCE --Vientiane, 17 February (OANA-KPL)--During his tour in the Sekong Province of the southeast Laos, Kaysone Phomvihan, general secretary of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party CC, and chairman of the Council of Ministers, encouraged the local population to closely unite in view to build and strengthen their region in all fields. K. Phomvihan, on the occasion, talked to the provincial party and administrative committees and people. He pointed out the importance in improving the organization set-up to efficiently guide the mass to carry out the resolution of the party CC Ninth Plenum (Third Congress). [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0857 GMT 17 Feb 86 BK] /12232

CSO: 4200/710

MALAYSIA

JOINT OPERATION WITH THAILAND TO BE ASSESSED

BK221406 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 1400 GMT 22 Feb 86

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, 22 Feb (BERNAMA)--Joint Task Force Commander Maj Gen Jaafar Mohamed will meet his Thai counterpart Maj Gen Kitti Rattanachaya on Monday to review the progress in the Malaysia-Thai joint border operation codenamed "Taksin 8601."

The operation was launched on 2 February to flush out terrorists belonging to the Communist Party of Malaya (CPM) operating along the border north of the Betong salient.

Since the operation was launched, security forces had yet to come in contact with the terrorists, he told BERNAMA.

However, Malaysian-Thai security forces had come across two abandoned communist camps, he said.

One of the camps had 10 individual sheltering units while another [had] 27 such units, he said.

The camps were destroyed by the security forces, Maj Gen Jaafar said.

"The action of the security forces has thwarted the hopes of the communists to regroup. The Security forces are in control of the situation in the area," he said.

The annual joint operation was aimed at eliminating the CPM's eighth and twelfth companies, he added.

He said five members of the Malaysian security forces were injured, two seriously, by communist booby traps.

Meanwhile reports from Bangkok quoted Gen Kitti as saying that Thai-Malaysian security forces were on the trail of a communist hideout in southern Thailand after jamming the CPM radio.

According to him three Thai rangers and two Malaysian soldiers were injured today by communist booby traps.

/9274
CSO: 4200/723

MALAYSIA

MAHATHIR WARNS OF 'TROUBLE' DURING ELECTIONS

BK151433 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 1356 GMT 15 Feb 86

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, 15 Feb (OANA-BERNAMA)--Malaysian Prime Minister Dr Mahathir Mohamed Saturday warned the people to be alert to certain groups in the country that he said would try to create trouble during the next general election. The prime [minister] who did not identify the groups said these groups would try to copy the events taking place in several other countries where hundreds would die during elections.

The ruling National Front coalition government's mandate to hold the next general elections expires in April next year.

"We will not let them do this. The Barisan Nasional (National Front) will preserve peace and unity," the front's leader told a mammoth gathering on arrival in the southern Melaka state about 150 km from here to begin a 2-day visit.

Dr Mahathir, accompanied by his wife, Dr Siti Hasmah, is on a nationwide tour to explain current issues facing the nation to the people.

The National Front, he said, adhered to truth and ever since it was given the mandate to govern the country it had struggled for peace, not chaos. But there were groups which were trying to divide the people through deceit and propaganda for their own political ends, he said.

Dr Mahathir also spoke of the efforts of certain opposition leaders who he said were trying to poison the minds of Malaysian students overseas into supporting their "criminal" activities in the country. He said they had tried to persuade the students into surrendering their valuables to finance such activities.

The opposition leaders had also tried to influence the students into opposing the government and their parents, with the excuse in the case of the parents to "improve" the latter's thinking, he said. However, he believed the students were unwilling participants but under pressure from such people they became influenced.

Dr Mahathir said the government, the National Front and the parents would do everything they could to counter the efforts of the groups.

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CSO: 4200/715

MALAYSIA

DEPUTY MINISTER ON PROBLEM OF ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS

BK130753 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0657 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, 13 Feb (OANA-BERNAMA)--Task Force VII, formed by the Malaysian Government to deal with the illegal immigrants problem, has worked out a formula to stop Indonesian illegal immigrants at sea, Deputy Home Minister Radzi Sheikh Ahmad said Thursday. He told BERNAMA that plans were being made to widen the area of responsibility of the task force--from checking the influx of Vietnamese boat people in the east coast to stopping the entry of Indonesian and other illegal immigrants in the west coast of the peninsula.

Mr Radzi said the formula and plans, worked out by the task force at its 2-day annual meeting here, would be presented to Deputy Prime Minister Mr Musa Hitam, who is also home affairs minister, for approval. He declined to elaborate on the plan but said that it would involve close cooperation between the Royal Malaysian Navy and the Marine Police.

Task Force VII was originally formed to check the influx of Vietnamese refugees in the east coast of peninsular Malaysia.

Mr Radzi said the west coast states of Negri Sembilan, Melaka, Selangor, Perak, Kedah and Perlis were the entry points for Indonesian, Thai and Burmese illegal immigrants. He also said that the Home Affairs Ministry was keeping an "extra watchful eye" on the entry of Filipino illegal immigrants into Sabah following current political developments in the Philippines.

On Vietnamese refugees, Mr Radzi expressed Malaysia's concern over what he said appeared to be a growing apathy of third countries, especially the United States, in resettling these people. He said that of late the processing of Vietnamese refugees on transit in Malaysia and other "first" countries to the third countries had been slow. He attributed this to what he termed "compassion fatigue" among the third countries.

In the past, Vietnamese refugees who landed in the country would be processed and sent to the third countries in a matter of 3 to 4 months but now there are many of them who have been here for more than a year. The deputy home minister said at present there were about 8,400 Vietnamese refugees in Malaysia. Mr Radzi said that this figure would grow unless third countries were more forthcoming in resettling the displaced people.

The Home Affairs Ministry was very concerned over the slackening attitude of the third countries and had launched a programme inviting foreign journalists to observe the problems faced by Malaysia in regard to influx of the Vietnamese refugees.

/9604

CSO: 4200/715

MALAYSIA

DAILY ON SINGAPORE OFFICIALS' STATEMENTS

BK140959 Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 12 Feb 86 p 10

[Editorial: "Sore With Singapore"]

[Text] Piqued by certain remarks by Singapore's First Deputy Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong and a civil servant, a growing number of Malaysians are joining the chorus of protests that will become louder unless somebody offers some quick explanations. Malaysians want to know if the alleged statements were made carelessly or callously. Malaysians want to know if the Singapore Government supports the sentiments expressed. The Singapore Government must show it is equally concerned so that the transgressions of the bounds of propriety are not allowed to escalate and confuse the otherwise straightforward issues that unfortunately gave rise to the incidents. Known for moving fast when it wants to, Malaysians are waiting to see how quickly the Singapore Government will handle this one.

Malaysians take particular exception to what the Director of the Commercial Affairs Investigation Department Mr Glen Knight is reported to have said to the Malaysian High Commissioner to the republic, Mr K.T. Ratnam. If the reports are true, there certainly can be no excuse for what happened, only room for apology. Nevertheless, even if in some cases the practice in Singapore itself is to disregard it, we should remember bruised feelings must not be used as an excuse to deny the alleged wrongdoer a chance to state his case, as we hope he has already done to his government. Meanwhile it is important to understand the circumstances under which the incident took place. Mr Knight, despite what one may have been led to believe about the superhuman Singaporean, might have been overwhelmed by the political overtones of the case he was handling or he might probably have been upset by what he may have mistakenly seen as political interference. On our part, we might be able to concede that remarks by a civil servant, however unfriendly and ill-informed, should not be given equal weight as statements by politicians.

That's why what Mr Goh was discredited with saying is another matter. Belittling the MCA [Malaysian Chinese Association] in front of a youthful and impressionable audience is not the best way to ensure that future generations of Singaporeans and Malaysians learn to respect and live with each other. Granted, Mr Goh has of late been obsessed with the republic's

knotty water supply problem, but this is no reason to lose one's cool when the Johor MCA made its remarks regarding future water supply agreements with Singapore. Fortunately not all Singaporeans share Mr Goh's sentiments, just as not all Malaysians agree with the Johor MCA. It is hoped that this little episode will soon be behind us, although one cannot help noting that, with greater statesmanship, it would not have arisen at all. It is perhaps still not too late to exercise a bit of that statesmanship.

Both the personalities involved in this unfortunate incident are probably guilty to the extent that they failed, under pressure, to resist the temptation to give public expression to what could have been essentially private, uncomplimentary thoughts. One hopes such thoughts are not too extensive within the Singapore Government. Mr Goh has always been a champion of ASEAN unity and has called for more exchange visits among members to generate better understanding. Yes, there seems to be a need to refresh the younger echelon of leaders, especially on the Singapore side, with each other's changing political environments.

/9604

CSO: 4200/715

MALAYSIA

MAHATHIR WARNS OF DIVISION AMONG MUSLIMS

BK211609 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 1506 GMT 21 Feb 86

[Text] Keluang, Malaysia, 21 Feb (BERNAMA)--Malaysian Prime Minister, Dr Mahathir Mohamed warned Friday that the Islamic religion may be wiped out in Malaysia if Muslims continue to be divided.

He said Muslims should forget their differences and be united for the cause of Islam. "If Muslims continue to be split, then there may come a day when Islam will vanish from Malaysian soil," he told about 1,000 Muslims after performing Friday prayers at a mosque here.

He said although on the whole Muslims were united, there were already elements who are trying to wreck the unity. Citing the "two-imam" issue, where prayers were conducted by two imams, and the practice of certain Muslims branding other Muslims as "kafir" (infidels), Dr Mahathir said the differences in views on the Koran and the Hadith might become the source of Muslim disunity in the country. This, he said, could be avoided by allowing those who were experts on the religion to give their views on the interpretation of the Koran and Hadith.

He said Muslims should be thankful that the situation in Malaysia allowed them to perform their prayers without any hindrance.

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CSO: 4200/723

MALAYSIA

VOMD CRITICIZES MAHATHIR'S CHINA POLICY

BK150443 (Clandestine) Voice of Malayan Democracy in Malay 1215 GMT 14 Feb 86

[News commentary: "The Dogs May Bark, But the Caravan Still Passes"]

[Text] At the end of last November, Mahathir led a large group of Malaysians to China. The government-backed mass media publicized Mahathir's so-called significant contribution toward developing Malaysian-Chinese relations by saying that he had exceeded efforts made by his predecessors, and so forth.

Actually, it is appropriate to point out that Mahathir, under pressure, has been forced to make certain allowances in the limited ties with China as compared to previous Kuala Lumpur authorities' moves. But it would be deceptive to say that Mahathir actively and significantly contributed to initiating a development of relations between the countries. Those who have been continuously following the development of Malaysian-Chinese relations know that these ties have not been that smooth and do not match social development and the wishes of the people in both countries for friendly relations. Indeed, the Kuala Lumpur authorities are very politically suspicious of China and are always very passive about developing bilateral relations.

When the Federation of Malaya was declared independent in 1957, Tunku Abdul Rahman, backed by the British imperialists, was appointed prime minister. At that time British colonialist influence was still widespread. The emergency rule that they imposed had not yet been lifted. The new Rahman government continued the colonial war. Although various groups in our country insisted that diplomatic relations between this country and China be set up and that friendly ties between the people of both countries be established, the Rahman government persisted in remaining under the influence of British imperialist policy as it was in the colonial days. This meant relations between the two countries could not be normalized.

In 1970 the late Abdul Razak seized power from Rahman. In 1971 Malaysia and China signed a joint declaration in Kuala Lumpur aimed at promoting closer trade relations between the two countries. In 1974, Abdul Razak led a delegation to China, and since then both countries have had formal diplomatic ties. The development of trade and diplomatic relations between Malaysia and China is the outcome of local and international developments.

In the 1970s the United States failed to isolate China--as it had been trying to do--despite the fact that throughout these years the Western world was dominated by U.S. policies. Former U.S. President Richard Nixon and former U.S. Secretary of State Kissinger went to China to improve relations, but with a view to furthering U.S. imperialist interests. This was hot news for quite some time. At that time, Malaysia was seeking a new market for its primary commodities, such as rubber. The people of our country, particularly the businessmen, endlessly appealed to the government to foster closer ties between the countries. On top of that, the image of the MCA [Malaysia Chinese Association], then led by Tan Siew Sin, was tarnished by the Chinese themselves. Thus, in order to get Chinese votes in a fresh general election, it was necessary to improve relations with China. Given this local and international situation, the late Abdul Razak, who was then the newly-appointed premier, was forced to promote limited trade and to establish diplomatic relations with China in order to protect his reactionary power and seize economic opportunities.

It must be noted that when Abdul Razak was appointed prime minister, he repeatedly said that his government is willing to establish diplomatic and trade relations with communist countries like China. But this did not change his government's policy of attacking communists in the country and imposing restrictions on relations between the people of Malaysia and China. This clearly shows the reasons why relations between the two countries could not be normalized even after diplomatic ties were established. Political analysts say the main obstacle to the promotion of bilateral relations was created by Kuala Lumpur--that is, the Kuala Lumpur authorities persisted in their anti-communist policy, continuing to wage an anti-communist war in the country. Moreover, they always view China and the CPC with caution.

Under Abdul Razak's rule, political conditions limited the development of Malaysia-China relations. The Kuala Lumpur government completely banned Malaysians from doing business with China, touring China, and visiting relatives in China. The Kuala Lumpur authorities also gave PERNAS [Perbadanan Nasional--National Corporation] the right to handle trade between Malaysia and China and to get a commission from doing so, and implemented a system of certification and strict scrutiny of goods imported from China. Abdul Razak's policy toward China was followed by succeeding Kuala Lumpur governments of Hussein Onn and Mahathir. In fact, Mahathir stressed that relations between Malaysia and Singapore must follow what is called an internal security and political concept.

Throughout these years, there were many problems in the relations between the people of both countries. The Malaysian-Chinese trade level remains stationary at only 1,000 million ringgit. That is only one-third of the trade value between Singapore and China. Although the Chinese side had sent several delegations to hold talks on economics, trade, cargo transportation, medical science, and sports with the Kuala Lumpur government, they have so far failed to open the door to the security and political ideas of the Kuala Lumpur government, which are full of all sorts of pretexts.

The Kuala Lumpur government continues to reject China's goodwill for various political reasons, even though Chinese state leaders such as Deng Xiaoping and Zhao Ziyang have visited the country. The Chinese leaders have given clear assurances that China will not interfere in our country's internal affairs. However, the Kuala Lumpur ruling clique stubbornly insists that China condemn what it calls the internal turmoil in our country, although this turmoil in fact arises from a struggle by the revolutionary people against the violent repression by the reactionaries. The Kuala Lumpur ruling clique has illogically demanded that the CPC renounce moral relations with other communist parties, particularly the Communist Party of Malaya [CPM]. The Kuala Lumpur ruling clique has in fact violated the general rules of international relations by raising its own internal affairs with and imposing its anticommunist policy on another country with which it has diplomatic relations. This is definitely unacceptable. As a result, Malaysian-Chinese relations have failed to develop further.

A new serious economic crisis has emerged in the capitalist world since the early 1980's. There have been no signs of recovery over the past 2 years. Many Third World countries have been seriously affected. Simultaneous with the economic crisis, protectionism is dominating trade and prices of primary commodities have fallen. Our country is affected by the crisis. Various circles in our country, particularly industrial and trade groups, are greatly alarmed because other ASEAN countries are competing to establish economic and trade relations with China, which has adopted an open-door policy in order to extricate themselves from the economic crisis.

The rapid turn of events has forced the Mahathir government to temporarily play down political issues in favor of economic and trade ones in relations with China. Thus, it was forced to relax several restrictions with China. Mahathir recently boasted that he made one great step forward in relations with China, claiming that he was more successful than Abdul Razak. The Mahathir government reoriented its relations with China in 1984. In June of this year, the then Foreign Minister Ghazali Shafie made an 8-day visit to China to discuss bilateral relations; he presented a report to the Mahathir government on his return.

Later, the cabinet set up a committee of senior officials of the Foreign Ministry, the Trade and Industry Ministry, the Home Affairs Ministry, and the Malaysian Industrial Development Authority, with Deputy Foreign Minister Kadir Sheikh Fadzir as its chairman. Within a year, the committee made recommendations on improving Malaysian-Chinese relations in a new atmosphere. The cabinet accepted the recommendations in the middle of last year.

These recommendations included, among other things, abolishing a regulation setting the minimum age of 30 for businessmen wishing to visit China and relaxing procedures for applying for visas to visit China, as reported by newspapers. The cabinet also decided to resume negotiations with China on trade and cargo transportation agreements. In an economic seminar at

the end of last August, Education Minister Abdullah Badawi said that the cabinet agreed with the attitude of the trade and industrial groups favoring China's open-door policy. In October, a Chinese-Malay trade and industrial delegation left for China to pave the way for Mahathir's visit in November. While in China, Mahathir himself witnessed the signing of many documents on bilateral trade, taxation, and investments. The two sides are continuing their talks in 1986. Of particular note, talks on a cargo transportation agreement have entered the final stage.

There are various indications that the Mahathir government has relaxed its restrictions on relations with China because of the current situation. This gives the impression that he has gone farther than the late Abdul Razak. However, the public sees that he has not in principle renounced his original anticommunist and anti-Chinese policy. He has even introduced new restrictions.

First, he is tightening control on relations between the people of Malaysia and China. In the 6th convention of the ASEAN Confederation of Journalists last September, Musa Hitam openly said that the Kuala Lumpur government will not allow the people of the two countries to have free relations so long as the CPC maintains party-to-party relations with other communist parties, particularly the CPM. Mahathir also said after his visit that while in China, he only discussed trade issues and did not raise political issues, like the CPM issue. He reiterated that his stand on this issue remains unchanged. Accordingly, the Mahathir government is again tightening control on verifying and approving applications to visit China while at the same time relaxing restrictions on people from our country visiting China.

Second, the Mahathir government is talking nonsense about direct trade, not only refusing to revoke a regulation requiring that Malaysian-Chinese direct trade be conducted through PERNAS but also demanding that imported goods be shipped directly from Chinese ports to our country's ports. Since 1985, all Chinese goods entering the peninsula via Singapore have been heavily taxed. This policy has violated the GATT. While asking China to accept the service of Far Eastern Trade Concern, the Mahathir government is imposing many restrictions on Chinese ships and strongly curtailing the rights of Chinese crewmen to land in ports in the country.

Third, the Mahathir government has not only refused to remove all restrictions on the imports of traditional Chinese goods, but it is also introducing new obstacles to rapid investment by our country's businessmen in China. It maintains that China must obey the so-called New Economic Policy in accepting investment from this country. This means that bureaucratic and comprador UMNO capitalists should be allowed to take part in and profit from investments in China.

Facts prove that like his predecessors, Mahathir has never been active in promoting Malaysian-Chinese relations. Mahathir was forced to lead the large delegation to China and reorient his policy toward China solely because the world situation is irreversible. The dogs may bark, but the caravan still passes! Does not this proverb very aptly describe the negative role of the Kuala Lumpur ruling clique--such as Mahathir and ilk--in the development of Malaysian-Chinese relations?

MALAYSIA

VOMD SAYS MAHATHIR OBSTRUCTING TRADE WITH PRC

BK151542 (Clandestine) Voice of Malayan Democracy in Malay 1215 GMT 14 Feb 86

["News report": "Mahathir Refuses To Lift Trade Restrictions Between Malaysia and the PRC"]

[Summary] Mahathir led a state delegation to visit the PRC on 20-28 November last year. Two ministers, three deputy ministers, businessmen, political party leaders, and journalists were included in his 200-strong delegation.

According to official reports, Mahathir held talks with PRC leaders on bilateral economic relations and signed several agreements including one on the avoidance of double taxation.

After Mahathir returned from the visit, some newspapers commented that the Kuala Lumpur ruling regime was slower than its ASEAN colleagues in developing trade ties with the PRC. The newspapers pointed out that "despite his promise to promote trade ties with the PRC, Mahathir has always refused to remove the existing trade restrictions. Why has he imposed such restrictions on local people who want to do business with or visit the PRC? Why do all goods from the PRC require the issuance of a special import permit? Why are they also subject to a 0.5-percent commission, which has to be paid to Pemas [National Trade Corporation]? This illogical regulation imposed only on goods from the PRC is obviously a discriminatory move which creates a lot of difficulties for local importers of PRC goods. Why cannot this regulation be scrapped altogether?"

Since the adoption of an open-door economic policy by the PRC and the economic crisis of capitalist countries, many capitalist-bloc countries have rushed to establish economic relations with the PRC during the last few years. Among the ASEAN countries, Singapore, Thailand, and the Philippines have established and maintained reasonably close trade relations with the PRC with even Indonesia, which has no diplomatic relations with the PRC, sending a trade mission in July last year and returning home with (?trade contracts) worth hundreds of millions of U.S. dollars. As for the Kuala Lumpur ruling regime, it was only last year that Mahathir visited the PRC.

"While it is true that Mahathir's visit resulted in the signing of several agreements, important issues such as direct bilateral trade and shipping procedures have not been agreed upon by the two countries. Besides, the Kuala Lumpur ruling regime never wants to scrap restrictions it has imposed on bilateral trade relations with the PRC. Therefore, it is not surprising to hear the newspapers commenting that Mahathir's PRC visit was too late. The newspapers also took issue with the regime's sincerity in promoting bilateral economic relations. It is well known that bilateral trade ties cannot be improved as long as the regime is politically hostile to the PRC."

The ruling regime signed a joint communique on trade relations with the PRC as late as 1971 due to its prejudiced attitude. It was even decided by the regime that trade relations between local and PRC businessmen must be arranged and supervised by Pernas. Even though diplomatic relations were established in 1974, the regime has continued to let Pernas supervise the bilateral trade and constantly obstructed the visits of local businessmen to the PRC. Only those over 65 were allowed to visit their relatives and friends in the PRC, but the regime had to relax some travel restrictions in July last year due to severe criticism from various circles in the country.

"However, the regulations on the special import permit and the 0.5-percent commission to Pernas remain in force."

In October last year, the ruling regime sent an economic team led by a former Bumiputra Bank chairman, Nawawi Mat Awi, to pave the way for Mahathir's visit in November. On its return home, the team was interviewed by newsmen and had to admit that the regulations on the special import permit and 0.5-percent commission to Pernas had yet to be scrapped. On his return from the PRC, Mahathir himself also expressed his unwillingness to abolish these regulations. The regime has only paid lip service to its promise to boost trade with the PRC.

The ruling regime's official in charge of Pernas once said that the bureaucrat capitalist agency had collected commissions totaling 15 million ringgit on goods imported from the PRC between 1980 and 1984, but he maintained that such commissions were necessary to offset Pernas' trade losses.

"During a parliamentary session late last year, no matter how Deputy Minister of Trade and Industry Muhyiddin Yassin tried to explain what the special import permit was, he was unable to explain why it existed. He had to admit that the regulation was a unilateral move by the ruling regime. When further pressed on why such a regulation was not abolished, he had to admit that this was Prime Minister Mahathir's business."

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CSO: 4213/101

MALAYSIA

BRIEFS

CALL FOR DIALOGUE WITH PAS--Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir Mohamed has renewed UMNO's [United Malays National Organization] invitation to PAS [Pan Malaysian Islamic Party] to meet and discuss problems facing Muslims in the country. The UMNO president said UMNO is prepared to hold dialogue with PAS at any time in the interests of the people, particularly the Muslims. He told reporters this after opening the National [word indistinct] Hall in Melaka. The prime minister also urged PAS to discard its dirty ways such as calling other Muslims kafirs, or infidels, and creating the issue of two imams [prayer leaders] conducting prayer sessions. These ways are not Islamic. He said UMNO is willing to enter into a dialogue and explain to them the Islamic religion so that they will no longer deviate. On his discussions with Melaka's Barisan Nasional leaders yesterday and today, the prime minister said they talked about the retrenchment of workers, current issues, and the next general elections. However, he said they did not touch on the date of the general elections. Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir said the country's current political situation was good except for the problem of unemployment. [Text] [Kuala Lumpur Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 16 Feb 86] /9604

EUROPEAN SOCIALISTS' PROPOSED SANCTION--Envy of Malaysia's economic development is the main factor behind an effort by European socialist groups to press for economic sanctions against Malaysia for alleged human rights violation. The minister of foreign affairs, Tengku Ahmad Rithauddeen, said they were also jealous of the peace being enjoyed by Malaysians. He told reporters this after meeting with ASEAN envoys at his ministry in Kuala Lumpur yesterday. The minister was commenting on an agency report from Brussels that quoted president of the European Parliament socialist group, (Ernst Klein), as saying that the Parliament would shortly consider a draft resolution urging the European Economic Community to take economic sanctions against Singapore and Malaysia on charges of violation of human rights. Tengku Rithauddeen said he realized that outsiders were going all out to paint a bad picture of Malaysia. As far as Malaysia was concerned, he said the government would do everything possible to ensure that the people enjoy peace and harmony in the country. He denied that Malaysia had violated any of the human rights and said provisions for protection of human rights are enshrined in the Constitution. [Text] [Kuala Lumpur International Service in English 0600 GMT 19 Feb 86] /9604

GOLD, FOREIGN EXCHANGE RESERVES--Kuala Lumpur, 18 Feb (BERNAMA)--Bank Negara's gold and foreign exchange reserves increased to 12,293.536 million ringgit (about U.S.\$5,017.770 million) on 31 January, from 11,632.871 million ringgit (about U.S. \$4,748.111 million) a fortnight ago, according to the central bank's latest balance sheet. Its total assets which included gold and foreign exchange reserve, IMF reserves, holdings of special drawing rights and federal government securities, rose to 17,278.305 million ringgit (about U.S.\$7,052.369 million) from 16,420.072 million ringgit (about U.S.\$6,702.070 million) previously. Currency in circulation increased to 7,361.727 million ringgit (about U.S.\$3,004.787 million) from 6,610.473 million ringgit (about U.S.\$2,698.152 million) while deposits by commercial banks, finance companies and merchant banks rose to 2,474.852 million ringgit (about U.S.\$1,010.144 million) from 2,406.857 million ringgit (about U.S.\$982.391 million). [Text] [Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0708 GMT 18 Feb 86 BK] /9274

INTERNATIONAL RADIO TO EXPAND--Plans are afoot to have Suara Malaysia [The Voice of Malaysia] broadcasting in four more languages--Vietnamese, Japanese, Laotian, and Khmer. Suara Malaysia, the overseas arms of the Radio Television Malaysia, celebrates its 23d anniversary on 15 February 1986. At present, Suara Malaysia broadcasts in English, Indonesian, Mandarin, Thai, Burmese, Arabic, Tagalog, and Malay. [Excerpt] [Kuala Lumpur International Service in English 0800 GMT 15 Feb 86 BK] /9274

DIRECT DIALING TO NIGERIA--A telecommunications headquarters statement says that the Telecommunications Department's automatic transdialing service will be extended to Nigeria on Saturday [15 February]. The code for Nigeria is 234. The normal charge for every 6 seconds is 75 cents while the cheap rate on weekends will be 50 cents. [Summary] [Kuala Lumpur International Service in English 0600 GMT 13 Feb 86 BK] /9274

FINNISH, SRV, GDR ENVOYS--Kuala Lumpur, 15 Feb (BERNAMA)--The Malaysian head of state, the "yang dipertuan agung" (king) today received the credentials of three new ambassadors to Malaysia, Erik Heinrichs of Finland, Tran Le Duc of Vietnam and Wolfgang Seyfarth of East Germany, at the national palace here. [Excerpt] [Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0714 GMT 15 Feb 86 BK] /9274

ENVOY TO LIBYA--Kuala Lumpur, 15 Feb (BERNAMA)--Foreign Ministry under-secretary (planning) Hasmy Agam, has been appointed the new Malaysian ambassador to Libya. He received his credentials from the king, here, today. Mr Hasmy, 42, began his career with the administrative and diplomatic service in 1968, after graduating from the University of Malaya. He had served at Malaysian missions in Washington, Hanoi and London. [Text] [Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0645 GMT 15 Feb 86 BK] /9274

THAI, INDONESIAN FISHERMEN DETAINED--Lumut, 17 Feb (BERNAMA)--Malaysian authorities have detained 70 Thai and Indonesian fishermen together with seven fishing boats for encroaching into Malaysian waters in the first half of this month. Maritime enforcement and coordination centre public relations officer Abdul Hamid Shukur said Monday 56 of them were jailed for failing to pay the fines, and one, who was underaged, was released. He said the court ordered the boats and fishing gear to be confiscated. [Text] [Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0802 GMT 17 Feb 86 BK] /9274

FRG PRESIDENT DEPARTS--Penang, (Malaysia) 19 Feb (BERNAMA)--West German President Dr Richard Von Weizsaecker and Baroness Marianne left here for Bonn Wednesday [19 February] after a 6-day official visit to Malaysia. On hand at the Bayan Lepas International Airport to see them off were Penang Governor Dr Awang Hassan, Penang Chief Minister Dr Lim Chong Eu, Minister-in-Attendance Khalil Yaakob and other dignitaries and their wives. During his stay in Malaysia, Dr Von Weizsaecker had also visited the capital city of Kuala Lumpur and the central western states of Melaka and Negeri Sembilan. [Text] [Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0531 GMT 19 Feb 86] /9604

CSO: 4200/715

SINGAPORE

PRC'S GU MU VISITS DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

BK190903 Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 19 Feb 86 p 9

[Text] Visiting Chinese State Councillor Mr Gu Mu yesterday said he was impressed with Singapore's physical development and would like to tap some of the expertise responsible for it.

But as Singapore's National Development Minister, Mr Teh Cheang Wan, said: "There was no agreement signed, nothing signed."

Mr Gu, the man in charge of developing economic cooperation between his country and Singapore, visited the National Development Ministry yesterday. After meeting the minister, he was briefed by officials from the Housing Board, the Urban Redevelopment Authority, Public Works Department and Indeco, the government-owned consulting firm, and also visited Bedok New Town and an HDB [Housing and Development Board] prefabrication plant.

Mr Gu told reporters he was impressed with what he saw and joked that he would like to import the whole city to China. Since that was not possible, he added, he would like to tap Singapore's expertise in the area of housing, urban redevelopment and public works. He did not specify how, and when, that might occur. One government official noted, however, that Mr Gu was a high-ranking official and concerned with a broad view rather than the "nitty-gritty" of handing out specific contracts for individual projects.

Mr Teh said Mr Gu was "just looking at various developments that took place in Singapore" and that he had expressed a strong interest in Singapore's public housing programme.

Even though Singapore and China were vastly different in size, Singapore's experience could be applied to individual cities in China, such as Shanghai and Beijing, Mr Teh said. They had, he added, experienced many of the same problems, such as traffic congestion. "Too many bicycles can (also) cause problems."

Spokesmen for the various agencies visited by Mr Gu said his programme was the standard one offered visiting dignitaries. They said they had not been told of any specific objective other than Mr Gu's desire to get an overall view of Singapore's development.

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CSO: 4200/724

SINGAPORE

MINISTERS OF STATE MADE ACTING MINISTERS

BK161215 Singapore Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 16 Feb 86

[Text] Two ministers of state have been made acting ministers in new appointments announced by the prime minister's office today. Mr Wong Kan Seng will be acting minister for community development. Mr Wong Kan Seng remains as minister of state for communications and information. Brigadier General Lee Hsien Loong is appointed acting minister for trade and industry. He will remain as minister of state in the Ministry of Defense.

The parliamentary secretary for finance and home affairs Dr Lee Boon Yang, has been appointed minister of state in the Ministry of Trade and Industry and the Ministry of Home Affairs. The MP for Khe Bong, Mr Tan Guan Seng, takes over as parliamentary secretary in the Ministry of Education. The MP for Eunos, Mr Zulkifli bin Mohamed, becomes political secretary in the Ministry of Development. These new appointments will take effect from Tuesday. The MP for Kampong Kembangan, Mr Yatiman Yusof, will be appointed as parliamentary secretary in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs from 21 April.

Following the new appointments, the minister for foreign affairs, Mr Dhanabalan, will relinquish his office in the Ministry of Community Development. Similarly, the minister for education, Dr Tony Tan, will relinquish his office in the Ministry of Trade and Industry. The minister of state for education, Dr Fabian Khoo, remains in the Ministry of Communications and Information while senior Parliamentary Secretary Mr Ho Kah Leong will be transferred from the Ministry of Education to the Ministry of Communications and Information.

The statement from the prime minister's office also says that the ministerial economic committees set up at the end of June last year to check the current downturn in the economy will continue to supervise the economy until it has recovered. The chairman of the committee is the first deputy prime minister and the minister for defense, Mr Goh Chok Tong.

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CSO: 4200/716

SINGAPORE

INVESTIGATOR SAID SUBJECT OF PROTEST

BK071229 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 1215 GMT 7 Feb 86

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, 7 Feb (BERNAMA)--The "very rude" Singapore official who is a subject of the Malaysian protest note to Singapore Thursday [6 February] is Glenn Knight, director of the Commercial Affairs Investigation Department (CAID) of the Republic's Finance Ministry, sources revealed Friday.

Although Malaysian Deputy Foreign Minister Datuk Abdul Kadir Sheikh Fadzir did not reveal the identity of the official when he handed over the note, sources said Knight was the person referred to in the note.

The note also protested against a remark by Singapore's first deputy prime minister, Goh Chok Tong, about the Malaysian Chinese Association (MCA), a component of the ruling national front.

The Malaysian Government, the sources told BERNAMA, had referred to two instances concerning Knight in the protest note.

One was when he met three MCA leaders, who are also Malaysian Cabinet ministers--Dr Ling Liong Sik, Lee Kim Sai and Chan Siang Sun--on 22 January, a day before MCA President Tan Koon Swan was charged in court over the financial affairs of the beleaguered Pan-Electric Industries. (Knight is prosecutor for the case.)

The other was when he met the Malaysian high commissioner to Singapore, K.T. Ratnam, on 21 January when Ratnam went to see Knight over the detention of Tan. The sources said Knight had been very "insulting" in his remarks about Malaysia, its system and people.

They said Knight had told the ministers in a derisive manner: "We do things different in Singapore, our system is different, unlike things in Malaysia," or words to that effect, when referring to the arrest and charging of Tan.

"He was not diplomatic at all...he was very rude to the ministers and also the high commissioner," said the sources.

The sources said the Malaysian High Commission had arranged the meeting that day for the MCA leaders in an attempt to get a clear picture regarding Tan's arrest. The meeting had lasted 30 minutes.

What had been publicly revealed about the protest note was the Malaysian Government's regret over Goh Chok Tong's remark that the MCA had no say in the government and that an official had made an uncalled for remark.

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CSO: 4200/716

SINGAPORE

GOVERNMENT REPLIES TO MALAYSIAN PROTEST NOTE

BK131329 Singapore Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Singapore has sent a reply to the Malaysian Government's protest note over the first deputy prime minister, Mr Goh Chok Tong's remarks about the Malaysian Chinese Association [MCA].

The minister for foreign affairs, Mr Dhanabalan, handed over the reply note to the Malaysian high commissioner, Mr K.T. Ratnam this morning. According to a Foreign Ministry spokesman, the Singapore Government's reply clarified that it was never the intention of Mr Goh, who is aware that the MCA is one of the ruling parties of the Malaysian National Front, to give any offense. He said the note also stressed that the remarks must be seen in the context of a reply to a question by [word indistinct] about a Johor MCA official's (?threat) not to support the renewal of the water agreement between Johor and Singapore. As water is a very important matter to Singapore, the note said that the first deputy prime minister wanted Singaporeans to know that the statement by the Johor officials was not the position of the Malaysian Government. Mr Goh's reply was given away so as not to cause alarm. The misunderstanding that arose from this interpretation was unfortunate. The spokesman said the note also touched on a complaint that certain MCA leaders, who went to visit their president, Tan Koon Swan, were treated with disrespect by a Singapore official. He said the note pointed out that the Singapore official had been forced to intervene when the leaders departed from their undertaking to discuss only party matters with Mr Tan. The official also had to turn down their request for a special treatment for the MCA president as this was contrary to Singapore laws. The spokesman added that the note also stressed that Singapore hoped the good relations between the two countries would continue.

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CSO: 4200/716

SINGAPORE

HIGH COURT LIQUIDATES PAN-ELECTRIC INDUSTRIES

BK070857 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0835 GMT 7 Feb 86

[Text] Singapore, 7 Feb (BERNAMA)--Nine banks petitioned the High Court to liquidate the Pan-Electric Industries and appoint Price Waterhouse as the provisional liquidator.

The application by law firm Drew and Napier on behalf of the creditors, including Standard Chartered Bank and its Merchant Bank, was filed and granted late Thursday [6 February].

Bankers said the decision to liquidate was triggered when the S\$20 million [Singapore dollars] that Malaysian politician-tycoon Tan Koon Swan, a director of the company, had earlier put up to keep the company afloat ran out. When the S\$20 million was used up this month, Price Waterhouse was prevented by law from transferring money from its operating subsidiaries to prop up the holding company.

A court petition was needed to liquidate the company so that a provisional liquidator, Price Waterhouse, acting as a shareholder of the subsidiaries, could take action to dispose the assets in an orderly manner.

The group's major assets include Orchard Hotel, valued at about S\$55 million, the Selco Group of companies and a number of residential and industrial properties here.

Price Waterhouse is understood to have received enquiries from various parties interested in taking over Orchard Hotel and its Selco marine salvage operation.

The liquidation comes after almost 2 months of drama following the 3-day closure of the stock market in Singapore and Malaysia, Tan Koon Swan's arrest and the imprisonment of Pan-El's financial director Tan Kok Liang in connection with criminal breach of trust charges involving the company's funds.

According to an early report by Price Waterhouse, secured creditors are likely to get all their money back in the event of a liquidation, unsecured creditors an average of 45 cents to a dollar (Singapore currency), and shareholders virtually nothing. Pan-El has up to S\$450 million owing to 37 banks.

11 March 1986

SINGAPORE

BRIEFS

BAHRAIN DELEGATION ARRIVES--An eight-member delegation from Bahrain has arrived for the sixth Bahrain-Singapore joint committee meeting. The 2-day talks, which start tomorrow, will discuss matters relating to industrial and technical cooperation and trade. On his arrival at Changi Airport, Mr (Tisa Abdul Lagus), the delegation leader, said Bahrain can be a gateway to Singapore for Gulf Cooperation Council [GCC] countries. He added that Bahrain would like Singapore businessmen to view opportunities that Bahrain and other GCC countries can offer. The Singapore team will be led by the Singapore chairman of the joint committee, Mr S. Chandra Das. [Text] [Singapore Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 12 Feb 86] /9604

CANADA SEEKS TRADE TIES--Canada says it has great faith in the Singapore economy and wants to continue doing more business with the republic. This was stated by the visiting Canadian minister for international trade, Mr James Kelleher, after holding talks with the minister for trade and industry, Dr Tony Tan. Mr Kelleher told Singapore Broadcasting Corporation he had encouraged Dr Tan to set up a trade office in Canada to enhance cooperation between the two countries. On areas for bilateral cooperation, Mr Kelleher said there was great potential in telecommunications, transport, and certain fields of electronics. Later, at a news conference, Mr Kelleher disclosed that a Canadian petrochemical company, [name indistinct], will open an overseas office in Singapore in August to help (?promote) its sales in the Asia-Pacific region. The \$4 million [currency not further specified] investment will focus on business development, market research, and sales promotion. He said the company will provide technical services with a view to starting a research laboratory which will have links with tertiary institutions in the republic. [Text] [Singapore Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 12 Feb 86] /9604

CSO: 4200/716

THAILAND

COLUMN DISCUSSES PRESENCE OF FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE UNITS

BK150810 Bangkok BANGKOK WORLD in English 15 Feb 86 p 6

["Personally Speaking" column by Suthep Chawiwat: "Foreign Spies Must be Purged"]

[Text] We do not know how many foreign spies are working in this country by taking advantage of their diplomatic privileges, or their membership of international organisations and certain relief agencies.

But hundreds of them may be involved in espionage work in Thailand, a free country where rival diplomats rub shoulders.

A large number of diplomats have been deported in various countries around the world, but few have been sent out of Thailand in recent years. Perhaps it is because Thailand does not want to interfere with foreign diplomats or their clandestine work which do not directly jeopardise our national security.

Due to its strategic position in Southeast Asia, Thailand seems to have been turned into the main spy centre in Asia.

Diplomats, or personnel with diplomatic immunity from all countries worldwide have been working here.

Such people are able to travel unobserved to any part of the country, near the Thai-Kampuchean border or to provinces on the Mekong River close to Laos.

Arab countries are also believed to have spies here which are supporting bandits in the southern part of Thailand.

The Barisan Republic National (BRN) which was established in 19[?] by Haji Abdul Karim (now in Malaysia), the Barisan National Pembebasan Pattani (BNPP) established by former Narathiwat member of parliament, the late Abdul Na Saiburi, and the Pattani United Liberation Organisation (PULO) whose leader Kubir Kutaniba now lives in Malaysia, are all believed to be receiving financial support from Arab countries.

It is relatively easy for foreign spies to gather information or carry out espionage work here, as well as set up their intelligence network.

Russia and China are both believed to have intelligence men in Thailand in Various guises: In news agencies, in trade delegates and other kinds of clandestine work.

The Soviet Union which, according to the United States, maintains 3,000 military advisers in Indochina, has done its best works in Thailand.

The Soviet Information Service (SIS) in Soi Keng Chuan, off Suan Palu Road has reportedly been successful in launching its SAHA PHAP SOVIET journal.

Many Buddhist temples in northeastern Thailand are reportedly mailed this publication under plain cover which does not bear the name of SAHA PHAP SOVIET, or any sign showing that it came from the SIS.

Thai students in the northeast are also reported to have been offered scholarships for study in the Soviet Union.

Taiwan which has no diplomatic relationship with Thailand puts its personnel in the China Airlines office for this sort of work too. Taiwan is also believed to be using the remnants of the Koumingtang (KMT) in northern Thailand.

The United States which has much influence on the Thai Government has various kinds of intelligence network either openly and secretly. Its FBIS (Foreign Broadcast Information Service) on wireless [word indistinct] plays a significant role in monitoring radio services from all stations in Asia and the Pacific.

A certain Christian group, or the so-called underground evangelism also have agents here to smuggle Bibles into China and Indochina countries.

And as a senior Lao refugee told the world, communist Pathet Lao also has agents in refugee camps with more than 10 of them operating in Napho Detention Centre of Nakhon Phanom.

So Thailand has become the main centre for foreign spy networks in Asia.

"We know they are spies, and Thai authorities also know this, but there is no concrete evidence. On the other hand what we want to do is to turn enemies into friends," said the Laotian refugee leader.

The group of Pathet Lao spies, in due course, would then soon return to their home countries like others before them who were found to be assigned by Pathet Lao authorities to monitor the activities of Laotian refugees at camps which also comprise rebels trying to stage a revolt to topple the Kaysone Phomvihan Government, he said.

A certain big country seems to go too far for their intelligence work. Its agents stationed in Nong Khai and Nakhon Phanom Provinces reportedly "bribe" Pathet Lao officials and Pathet Lao soldiers to give them "information."

Concerned Thai authorities, the Armed Forces Security Centre of the Supreme Command, Special Warfare Centre based in Lop Buri, the army's Directorate of Operations, Central Intelligence Department, and Special Branch Police, all know about these foreign spy networks.

But it seems that each Thai intelligence unit only gathers information and keeps them in files; perhaps, they thought that it was "mai pen rai" (no problem) that our national security was being jeopardised.

In addition, what foreign spies are getting from Thailand are only minor secrets. Most of them had exchanged information among themselves or were fishing for information from their rival missions.

In April 1984, the Soviet Embassy here accused the CIA of using Australians and Japanese to persuade Soviet Embassy staff in Bangkok to part with secret information. Most newspapers in Thailand and in many countries worldwide published this news item.

Whether or not the accusation is true is beyond my ability to pursue. However, I would like to conclude that I share the same ideas with the Thai Intelligence authorities, that is:

"Go ahead with your intelligence work, but if you go too far and cause damage to our national security all of your will be purged, no matter what country you are from." [sentence as received]

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CSO: 4200/709

THAILAND

KHUKRIT SCORES SONTI'S REMARKS ON U.S. BASES

BK170225 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 17 Feb 86 pp 1, 3

[By Banyat Thatsaniyawet]

[Excerpts] Former Social Action Party Leader M.R. Khukrit Pramot declared yesterday that he would not return to head the party despite numerous calls by dissident members that he resume a leadership role to resolve internal problems.

"No one has ever invited me or approached me (to head the party)," said M.R. Khukrit, adding "even if they came to me, I would not accept because I didn't quit as the party leader because I felt hurt and thus wanted someone to plead with me (to return to the party)."

Speaking to the BANGKOK POST in an exclusive interview, the ex-SAP leader maintained that he had resigned from the party's top post because he felt he was too old and not as physically fit as he used to be.

M.R. Khukrit said that he had not met Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon since he stepped down from the party leadership in late December. "There is only Prime Minister Prem who understands and sympathises with me. Since I quit, (Prem) has not brought any burden on me. Instead, the others who do not understand me like the prime minister (bring burdens on me). This is what is called true understanding," he said.

On the possible extension of General Athit Kamlang-ek's tenure as the army commander-in-chief and supreme commander, M.R. Khukrit noted that the issue came under the jurisdiction of the government, not the Parliament. However, he said that parties in the coalition government could express their views when the issue was discussed in the Cabinet.

The former SAP leader also took Deputy Prime Minister Sonthi Bunyachai to task for implying that Thailand should consider allowing the United States to relocate its military bases from the Philippines to this country.

He said that if the statement had come from a grandma selling rice and curry, it would have caused laughter and possibly a joke about how she would feel about her daughter. "But when a man with the status of a deputy prime minister spoke out, it was a different matter," he said.

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CSO: 4200/709

THAILAND

ATHIT ON WORK ON WAR RESERVE STOCKPILE SETUP

BK180319 Bangkok THE NATION in English 18 Feb 86 p 2

[Text] Supreme Commander General Athit Kamlang-ek said yesterday that officials of the three armed forces are currently working out details over the location of the War Reserve Stockpile (WRS) with the United States.

Gen Athit said that military personnel concerned are contemplating whether the future setup will be on a permanent or temporary basis.

It was the first time that a senior Thai military official said that such discussions among various senior officials of the three armed forces had taken place.

Athit also said that the armed forces will try to finalize all details concerning the location and terms of WRS "as soon as possible," which could be completed within this year.

Last October, Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon and U.S. Secretary of Defence Caspar Weinberger, signed the memorandum on logistics support, which will improve logistics support to Thailand both in time of peace and international tension.

Although the memorandum does not provide access to the U.S. WRS, diplomatic sources said that the agreement could facilitate consideration of such a move if the two countries agree to discuss it. Athit said Weinberger's visit to Thailand is not connected with the planned WRS. "It is a routine visit. For the WRS, we can not urge the U.S. to quicken the process," he said.

Weinberger is scheduled to visit here during 8-10 April. Besides discussing with senior Thai officials, he will also visit the Thai-Kampuchean border and refugee camps.

Diplomatic source said that the Thai armed forces will have a clearer idea and concept of WRS as the result of the discussions between concerned military personnel prior to Weinberger's visit.

He told reporters during the stone-laying ceremony at the Army Club that Thailand will receive the sophisticated U.S.-made anti-artillery radar with 3 months. The equipment reportedly can accurately pinpoint enemy guns before the shells hit the targets.

Athit, who visited the U.S. Pacific Military Command in Hawaii recently, said U.S. commanders considered the Philippine presidential election an internal affair which was unlikely to affect the Subic Bay Naval Base and Clark Air Base. The largest U.S. military installations in this region.

He said whoever became the newly-elected president, the two bases would be maintained as Washington had a military base rights agreement with Manila.

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CSO: 4200/709

THAILAND

SITTHI APPEALS TO CONGRESSMEN FOR MORE U.S. AID

BK150120 Bangkok THE NATION in English 15 Feb 86 p 2

[Text] Deputy Prime Minister Sitthi Sawetsila yesterday appealed to a group of leading U.S. lawmakers to increase U.S. support and assistance to Thailand to strengthen its security and economy.

Deputy Foreign Ministry Spokesman Pratyathawi Tawethikun quoted Sitthi as saying that the protectionist trend and the recently-signed Farm Act will have a tremendous effect on the Thai economy. "The United States should understand and help us," Sitthi told the visiting U.S. representatives.

The 10-member delegation, led by Representative Gerald Solomon (Republican, New York), was on its way to Hanoi and Vientiane to meet with Vietnamese and Laotian officials on U.S. servicemen missing in action.

During the discussion with Sitthi, Pratyathawi said that Solomon highly praised Thailand and its development toward a full democratic country. "Thailand represents the best hope in Southeast Asia," he quoted Solomon as saying.

Solomon also expressed gratitude that Thailand has been a strong ally of the United States for a long time, according to the deputy spokesman.

Pratyathawi also said that the U.S. lawmakers have agreed to raise Thai concerns over the impact of the Farm Act on Thai rice export with President Reagan.

Sitthi said that about 70 percent of Thais are farmers, and stagnant rice exports could disturb their living conditions and eventually all of Thai society, according to Pratyathawi.

The U.S. delegation also praised Thailand's outstanding work in suppressing drug trafficking in the Golden Triangle area. "The crop substitution programme has also been very successful, leading to a better standard of living among ethnic groups, he added.

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CSO: 4200/709

THAILAND

SITTHI DISCUSSES BILATERAL TIES WITH BURMA

BK140147 Bangkok THE NATION in English 14 Feb 86 p 3

[Text] Thailand will carry out measures to settle long-standing issues with Burma as a confidence building step towards closer cooperation in the economic and cultural areas between the two countries, Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawetsila said yesterday.

Sitthi, concurrently deputy prime minister, said that Thailand does not support the rebel minority groups in Burma. The rebels are operating against Rangoon from the Thai-Burmese border.

He said the security and stability of Burma is vital to the national interest of Thailand. "The weakening of Burmese security will have an adverse effect on our security," he told about 250 lecturers of Ramkhamhaeng University.

The deputy premier, who is scheduled to visit Rangoon later this month, stressed that the Thai Government will try its best to clamp down on the smuggling of goods and especially arms to minorities groups active along the estimated 1,700 kilometres border. "We have made it clear that the minorities problem is the internal matter of the Burmese Government. We will take no part or provide any support to the minorities," he said, "because whenever there are clashes between the rival forces, our people also suffer."

There are several groups of minorities which are very active in the area. Some groups such as Karen Mon and Shan have taken up arms struggle against the government troops.

The deputy premier added that local authorities along the Thai-Burmese border will be rotated on a regular basis to prevent any possible collaboration between them and minorities groups.

"Burma is a good friend of Thailand. We have common heritage and long traditions. Let us forget the past and look ahead for closer cooperation," Sitthi said.

One of the important cooperation between the two countries is the joint efforts to suppress drug trafficking along the Thai-Burmese border. "The Burmese Government has cooperated with us and international officials to do this difficult job," he said.

There is a lot of room, he added, where the two nations can cooperate in the economic, and cultural areas. Sitthi said that in the past there were some joint ventures between the two countries but they were unsuccessful.

"Well, our people have cheated them. So they have decided not to deal with us," Sitthi said jokingly.

During his forthcoming trip to Burma, Sitthi said that he will try to encourage the Burmese Government, which has been slowly opening up its country to the outside world, to cooperate more closely with Thailand and ASEAN. "Economically speaking, Thailand can do a lot for Burma. Thailand is a bridge between Burma and ASEAN," he said.

Sitthi pointed out that Thailand would like to explore the possibility making use of the Salawin River along the Thai-Burmese border to produce hydroelectric power. "If we build a dam across the river, it can generate a gigantic amount of energy for the two countries," he said.

Before this sort of cooperation gets underway, it is essential that some basic problems such as unclear demarcation lines along the border and goods smuggling be settled first, according to Sitthi.

He said that the Thai Government has accorded top priority to the demarcation line issue, particularly in the area along the Sai River.

A team of senior Thai officials, including Deputy Foreign Minister Praphat Limpaphan is currently on a week-long factfinding mission at Sai River, Sitthi said.

"It is in the interest of the two nations to have the problem of Sai River resolved before we proceed further to other fields of cooperation," he said.

Sitthi said HRH Princess Maha Chakkri Sirinthon is scheduled to visit Burma next month. The visit will mark a new era of Thai-Burmese ties, which can be traced back to several centuries ago, he added.

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CSO: 4200/709

THAILAND

SITTHI TO VISIT NORTHEAST, DISCUSS LAO PROBLEMS

BK170235 Bangkok THE NATION in English 17 Feb 86 p 3

[Text] Deputy Prime Minister Sitthi Sawetsila will visit northeastern provinces on the Thai-Lao border early next month to exchange views with local authorities on the border security and trade with the landlocked country, an informed source told THE NATION yesterday.

Sitthi's trip to Udon Thani and Nong Khai during 6-7 March is part of a programme to keep close consultations with provincial authorities on a regular basis.

The source said that Sitthi's visit is aimed at reinforcing communications between the Foreign Ministry which Sitthi also heads and other government agencies, particularly those which have to deal with border problems.

In last month's meeting of the Joint Public-Private Sector Consultative Committee in Khon Kaen, Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon expressed support for a proposal to upgrade Thailand's trade relations with Laos.

Sitthi will visit Udon Thani and Nong Khai in the wake of a recent announcement that all 17 northeastern provinces can now authorize the sale of products to neighboring Laos. Previously only Nong Khai and Mukdahan were allowed to do so.

Under the new arrangement, Sitthi said that exporters could ask for as many permits to trade with the Laotians as they wanted. He also added that the government would promote exports by independent merchants and would try to prevent big companies from monopolizing trade between the two countries.

During the meetings with provincial authorities next month, the source added, the possibility of opening more check-points and the review of the list of embargoed products, mainly strategic goods, will also be raised and discussed.

The source said that security along the Thai-Lao border will also be a main topic of discussions. Recently, the local Thai authorities said that a group of heavily-armed Laotian troops crossed over to Ubon Ratchatani and attacked a village, killing and wounding several villagers.

The trade volume between Thailand and Laos during the past 3 years has decreased drastically. In 1983, Thailand exported 762.1 million baht worth of goods while Laos exported about 26.9 million baht into Thailand. In 1984, Thailand's export value was 408.4 million baht while Laos' exports were worth about 23.9 million baht.

Thai officials expressed support for more direct trade with Laos in an attempt to reduce the flow of smuggling across the border.

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CSO: 4200/709

THAILAND

LOEI JOINS CALL FOR LAOS TRADE

Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 5 Feb 86 p 3

[Text]

Loei — Governor Santi Mancekarn urged the Government yesterday to allow trade between Loei and the Laotian province of Sayaboury.

Mr Santi said consumer goods from Thailand were in demand in Laos, which in turn was offering rattan and forestry produce.

The Loei governor is joining the growing chorus among northeastern officials and businessmen who want the Government to relax trade restrictions and open more border points with Laos.

The pro-trade lobby contends that relaxed restrictions would encourage recovery in the depressed northeastern

provinces.

At present, only border points in Nong Khai and Mukdaharn are open.

However, following a meeting of the Joint Private/Public Sector Consultative Committee in Khon Kaen last month, governors of the 17 northeastern provinces have been authorised to allow the sale of goods to Laos not exceeding 20,000 baht.

The proposal to open a border point in Loei will be raised at a meeting today with Customs Department director-general Kraisri Chatikavanich and National Security Council officials.

/9317
CSO: 4200/711

JPRS-SEA-86-043
11 March 1986

THAILAND

SOUPHANOUVONG GREETAS ASIAN BUDDHIST CONFERENCE

BK131124 Vientiane KPL in English 0903 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Vientiane, 13 February (KPL)--Souphanouvong, president of the republic, the People's Supreme Assembly, and of the Lao Front for National Construction CC, addressed his warmest greetings to the Seventh Asian Buddhist Conference for Peace (ABCP) general conference which is being held in the Lao capital. In the message, the Lao president underlined the present international situation and the danger of a nuclear holocaust resulting from the bellicose policy pursued by the imperialists and other reactionary forces. In this connection, he hailed the great efforts and achievements of the ABCP in the struggle against war and the arms race for peace, national independence and social progress. The message wrote:

"The Lao people of all ethnic groups who have gone through an over 30 year long war and subsequent sufferings and are well aware of the value of peace and the harm of war, have the earnest aspiration for a peaceful life and for the construction of their fatherland with the aim of getting rid of poverty and backwardness and living a life of happiness and prosperity."

The message continued: "That is why the government of the Lao People's Democratic Republic as well as the entire Lao people always extend the almost active support to the efforts and various humanitarian initiatives of socialist countries concerning the ban of the production, test and race of world destruction arms. We support and praise the Soviet Union for opening the International Year of Peace with new correct initiatives which are highly reasonable and filled with a lofty sense of responsibility towards the security of this planet, aimed at halting the production and use of destructive arms capable of total extermination and, further at the complete elimination of arsenals of weapons from our world."

"The government of the Lao People's Democratic Republic highly values your endeavour to study many problems threatening life, the scientific and cultural riches of mankind in the world, as well as your efforts to find practical ways to curb the arms race on earth and in space in order to save mankind from the apocalypse of a nuclear war and ensure peace and fruitful cooperation among the peoples of the world," the message concluded.

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CSO: 4200/709

THAILAND

PHOUMI VONGVICHIT MEETS WITH THAI MONKS

BK191117 Vientiane KPL in English 0907 GMT 19 Feb 86

[Text] Vientiane, 19 February (OANA-KPL)--Most Venerable Thonghoun Anantasouthon, president of the Lao Buddhist Fellowship Organisation, stated that the Lao Buddhists always support world peace and justice and expressed hope for the furtherance of relations between the Lao and Thai monks which will contribute to the establishment of neighbourliness relations between the two peoples.

The Lao clergy side led by T. Anantasounthon, who is also chairman of the Peace Education Committee of the Asian Buddhist Conference for Peace (ABCP), met here yesterday with a Thai Buddhist delegation led by Ven Nakhon Khemapali, secretary general of the Buddhist University, secretary and also vice-chairman of the Peace Education Commission of the ABCP. The Thai monks attended the recent ABCP conference in Vientiane.

The Thai monk, for his part, said that he is impressed to see the real condition of the Lao clergy community which has largely raised its secular and religious education. Worshipping places have been carefully renovated. He noted and reaffirmed his hope for the promotion of the good relations of brotherhood between the Thai and Lao peoples.

Phoumi Vongvichit, vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Lao PDR, who also took part at the meeting, pointed out the policy of the party and government towards the Lao monks. He praised the good deeds of Lao Buddhists during the period of national liberation as well as those manifested at the present national socialist building work in the fields of education, culture, and sanitary work.

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CSO: 4200/709

THAILAND

VICE PREMIER PHICHAIR ON TRADE DEFICIT WITH JAPAN

BK090915 Bangkok Domestic Service in English 0000 GMT 9 Feb 86

[Text] Deputy Prime minister Phichai Rattakun said that Thailand was able to reduce trade deficit with Japan by about 2,000 million baht last year. The deputy prime minister made the statement on Friday at the seminar on Thai-Japanese relations under the framework of the White Paper. He said that the Thai Government is searching for ways to solve the problem of trade imbalance with Japan. At present, he said, the government has accorded top priority to the trade deficit with Japan followed by those with the United States, China, and the European Community.

Mr Phichai, who is also the chairman of the Subcommittee on Restructuring Thai-Japanese Economic Relations, said that while solving the trade imbalance, other aspects such as investment and economic and technical cooperation should also be considered. The deputy prime minister pointed it out that the outline provided by the White Paper has made the solving of the trade imbalance with Japan easier. He added that in 1984 Thailand suffered about 43,000 million baht deficit with that country. But last year the gap was reduced to 41,000 million baht.

/12232

CSO: 4200/709

THAILAND

SITTHI OUSTER SOUGHT

Bangkok THE NATION in English 7 Feb 86 p 5

[Text]

DISSIDENT Social Action Party (SAP) MPs huddled yesterday and vowed to work for the ouster of the caretaker party leadership.

Spokesman of the so-called SAP Young Turks, Chawaeng Wongyai, said that his group would not also accept the appointment last Tuesday of 10 SAP MPs to political posts but will call on the appointees to resign before the party meeting in the middle of this month.

Chawaeng, a Payao MP, also vowed that he will submit a motion calling on caretaker party leader ACM Siddhi Savetsila, secretary general Thongyod Chittavira and executive member Pong Sarasin to step down from the executive committee.

He said that if the newly-appointed secretaries to the new SAP Cabinet members refused to step down, they would face sanctions from the dissident grouping.

Asked what the Young Turks would do if the executives refused to step down, Chawaeng said that his group would boycott future party meetings.

He said that the executives should step down because they failed to run the party affairs smoothly. Referring to the appointment of 10 secretaries, the MP said the Young Turks reaffirmed the

party resolution last week over the replacement of all the 26 SAP political appointees and the nomination of 30 SAP MPs to the posts.

He charged that the party leadership violated the party resolutions.

Thongyod told the party meeting last Friday that the caretaker party leader would consult with SAP ministers over the nomination.

A dissident MP told *The Nation* that the meeting took note of a tip-off that the party leader did not want to have a meeting of SAP MPs anytime this month.

As a result, the meeting assigned Nakhon Sawan MP Prasong Wong-sunthorn to flash out telegrams to all SAP MPs asking them to travel to Bangkok for a party meeting on Feb 14.

But Khon Kaen MP, Suvit Khunkitti, said he had learned that the executive committee would call a party meeting on Feb 17.

Suvit, a Young Turk member appointed as secretary to Commerce Minister Surat Osathanukroh, claimed that the rank and file in the party was satisfied with the appointment of the 10 SAP MPs.

/9317

CSO: 4200/711

THAILAND

PROFILE OF NEW COMMERCE MINISTER

Bangkok THE NATION in English 26 Jan 86 pp 9, 10

[Text]

FINALLY, the power realignment in Social Action Party (SAP), the largest partner in the coalition government, and the failure of the paddy price-lifting policy did bring about a change within the Prem Administration.

Emerging from the waves of political turbulence, Pol Cpt Surat Osathanukroh successfully made a big comeback, his third return to the Cabinet in slightly over a decade. But this time, there will be a big difference, for he has been assigned to take charge of one of the most challenging Cabinet portfolios: the one responsible for the national economy in time of economic crisis.

Surat was named, in the Cabinet reshuffle over a week ago, the commerce minister, a crucial post in the inner Cabinet widely known as the Council of Economic Ministers, to succeed his SAP colleague Kosol Krairiksh.

With the paddy price crisis and the gloomy future of Thai rice export still up in the air, the new commerce minister seems determined to place his reputation at stake in restoring confidence in the Thai rice trade which was once the most crucial foundation of the Thai economy.

Only a few days after taking his office, Surat managed to persuade the Council of Economic Ministers to approve his proposal to liberalize rice exports and scrap the official minimum price for high quality paddy adopted earlier by his predecessor.

The move was seen as an abrupt switch in the policy of the government amidst political and economic pressure concerning the unprecedented deviation of its traditional incremental decision-making style. It was also seen as the final effort of SAP to salvage its credibility before the 1987 general elections.

The latter assumption was proved to be right when Surat revealed that he had been in fact working on the new policy for at least a week before Kosol formally submitted his resignation.

BUT that was just his first shot. The second thunderbolt hit again last Tuesday when he swiftly moved to regroup key positions of permanent officials in his ministry. The changing of the guard involved four senior civil servants.

The most important of all was when the then director general of the Foreign Trade Department, Bajr Israsena, who was said to be one of the architects of the abolished paddy price-lifting scheme, was transferred to head the Department of Business Economics, a much less powerful post in the ministerial hierarchy.

The realignment certainly surprised Bajr who was reassigned to lead the Foreign Trade Department just last October, the post he had once held for a full four-year term. He even told reporters a day before the reshuffle with confidence that he still held comprehensive authority to issue trade regulations under his new boss.

Surat promptly defended his decision saying that it was not necessary for top officials to complete their term if the transfer was considered suitable. He added that the regrouping would enable senior officials of the ministry to learn more work.

However, an informed source close to the new commerce minister pointed out that the transfer had been designed to ensure the smooth implementation of the new policy aiming to prevent "sabotage" by some "hardheaded" officials.

SURAT, who resigned in 1983 as deputy interior minister in the fourth Prem government, still has to fight a long battle to prove his ability and stamina. However, he confidently announced early last week that the domestic rice market needed about one month to adjust to his policy and from then onwards, the future of paddy price would be brighter.

Widely known in the fields of pharmaceutical industry and education, the new commerce minister entered the political arena in 1975 as a Bangkok MP under the banner of the Democrat Party.

He then was named communications minister under the three-week-old Seni Administration. However, he chose to stay away from politics during the political uncertainties after the October 6, 1976 incident, and devoted full time to his business.

When the political climate became better in late 1979, Surat, together with several leading technocrats and academics formed the "Ratchapruet political group" which later joined Prachaseri Party under the leadership of northeastern tycoon Chaisiri Ruangkanaset. The party was later dissolved and its members joined SAP.

In 1983, he made a successful comeback by winning the general elections in the northeastern province of Khon Kaen. He was then appointed deputy interior minister, but later resigned on health grounds. Surat finally returned to the Cabinet on Jan 15 with a bang.

BORN on May 11, 1930 in Bangkok, Surat finished his high school education in Hong Kong and later went to continue his studies in Colorado, United States, where he earned his bachelor's degree in business administration.

Apart from being the managing director of Osothsapha or Teck Heng Yoo Co Ltd, one of the country's largest pharmaceutical manufacturers founded by his late father, Mr Sawat, he was also involved in a wide range of businesses.

Surat also played a leading role in establishing the nation's first private college which was later upgraded to Krungthep University.

Described by the other SAP members as a popular figure in the party, he is said to enjoy strong support from northeastern MPs.

/9317

CSO: 4200/711

THAILAND

MINISTER LEK NANA IN HOSPITAL

Bangkok THE NATION in English 5 Feb 86 p 1

[Text]

SCIENCE, Technology and Energy Minister Lek Nana was hospitalized yesterday after he developed chest pain during the weekly Cabinet meeting.

He was rushed to Vichaiyuth Hospital on Setsiri Road at about 10 am and was given saline solution and oxygen. He was later transferred to Bangkok General Hospital on New Phetchaburi Road and was listed in satisfactory condition in the intensive care unit.

Dr Pongsak Vidhyakorn, director of the hospital, said Lek had been suffering from heart palpitations, an illness caused by overworking. He said the Democrat minister might have to stay for a few days at the hospital.

"He is out of danger now. There is nothing serious about his condition," said the doctor.

Visitors were not allowed yesterday. Premier Prem Tinsulanonda and some of the Cabinet members sent flowers to the minister.

Lek, 61, was appointed science minister last August to replace Damrong Latthapipat, also a Bangkok MP of the Democrat Party, who committed suicide.

Lek's personal doctor, Somchart Losaya, said the minister had been working very hard and was having problem with high blood pressure.

Meanwhile, an informed source in the Government House said Minister of the PM's Office Suli Mahasandhana complained of dizziness during yesterday's Cabinet meeting and left. But he returned to the meeting shortly afterward.

Suli was admitted to Vichaiyuth Hospital recently for serious dizziness and high blood pressure.

/9317

CSO: 4200/711

THAILAND

THIRAYUT BOONMEE ON POLITICAL ROLE

Bangkok THE NATION in English 3 Feb 86 p 2

[Text]

FORMER student activist Thirayuth Boonmee emerged from years of obscurity yesterday and indicated he was prepared to jump into politics.

"I am ready to lead the fight if the people want to fight in politics," he told his audience during a panel discussion at the Royal Hotel.

Thirayuth, who broke away from the Communist Party of Thailand (CPT) in early 1981, said he believed young people had not yet forsaken the society.

"Politics is like love. You can love again even when you have a broken heart. That's why young people today are turning to political parties which apparently represent

the best alternative," he said.

Thirayuth was apparently referring to former student activists who have joined some political parties.

Thirayuth, a prominent student leader during the Oct 14 Uprising period, said that to promote democracy, the prime minister must come from election and he must also be a civilian.

Thirayuth said some senior officials, such as Interior Minister Gen Sitthi Chirarochana and Army Chief-of-Staff Gen Chaovalit Yongchaiyuth, still

view young people with suspicions.

He said they often talked about their suspicions that young people were allies of CPT working in the city.

The 36-year-old former student activist said all the communist defectors whom he had met, believed that the CPT was dead. He said the government should no longer talk about the CPT as a threat to national security.

Thirayuth spent some time studying in the Netherlands after he left the CPT.

Also speaking at the same panel discussion, entitled "Building of Social Democratic Way in Developing Countries," were labour leader Ekkachai Ekharnekamol and well-known columnist Yodthong Tapthewmai.

Yodthong is known to have been in serious ideological conflict with Thirayuth. This was apparently their first meeting in public.

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CSO: 4200/711

THAILAND

FINANCE PANEL APPROVES 1987 ZERO GROWTH BUDGET

BK170239 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 17 Feb 86 p 1

[By Yuwadi Thanyasiri]

[Text] Thailand's national budget for 1987 calls for an increase of less than 1 percent in total expenditure over last year's 218,000 million baht, according to a well-informed source in the Ministry of Finance.

The zero-growth budget for the 1987 fiscal year was recently approved in principle by an ad hoc committee chaired by Finance Minister Sommai Huntrakun and including representatives from the Bank of Thailand, the Budget Bureau and the National Economic and Social Development Board.

The source said that the new budget would be about 220,000 million baht, representing an increase of 0.9 percent over this year's. The budget for 1986 is 2.3 percent more than 1985's 213,000-million baht expenditure.

But since the 213,000 million-baht 1985 budget was cut by 4,000 million baht in February last year, the 1986 budget may be said to represent an increase of 9,000 million baht or 4.3 percent.

The committee agreed that keeping a zero-growth budget for the second year running would help to discourage economic expansion, but the Finance Ministry is more concerned with the country's debt problem, according to the source. An austerity programme for another year could help control the external debt burden.

Debt servicing will swallow up 50,719.3 million baht or 23.3 percent of this year's budget. The amount will go up by about 9,000 million baht to 59,719.3 million baht next fiscal year.

The Finance Ministry contended that the zero-growth budget would cushion the impact of any economic turmoil, the source said, and would enhance the stability of the government.

One factor which discourages a larger increase in budget expenditure is a substantial shortfall in tax collection, the source pointed out. Total tax collection, including personal income tax, corporate tax, business tax and customs duties, will amount to about 179,000 million baht.

The zero-growth budget is making itself felt in the form of an economic slowdown, said the source, adding that a 4 percent economic growth projection for this year will not be achieved.

The source pointed out that the 600-million-baht increase in the government's development budget next fiscal year over this year's 34,000 million baht, is too small to stimulate economic expansion and encourage the private sector to invest more this year. The result, he predicted, will be another year of economic slowdown and a worsening unemployment problem.

Both Labour Director-General Chamnan Photchana and the Employers Federation of Thailand earlier forecast that the number of jobless will reach the 2 million mark next year. This number, however, does not include the 2 million people who are underemployed.

Asked why next year's budget could not be allocated in a way so as to stimulate the domestic economy, Budget Bureau Director Bodi Chunnanon said that this should be done, as a matter of principle. But since the government intends to tighten its belt, it is necessary that the budget be kept at zero-growth.

The new budget will be submitted to the Cabinet for approval next month and then to Parliament.

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CSO: 4200/709

THAILAND

NEW PROJECTS FOR NESDB FUNDED

Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 7 Feb 86 p 19

[Text]

THE Government has approved the National Economic and Social Development Board's requirement for a 226-million-baht budget for 12 development projects during the 1987 fiscal year, NESDB Deputy Secretary-General Kosit Panpiemras said yesterday.

He said NESDB would soon announce its 200 national products which it considered had a good chance for production and export.

The projects are the first step in the Sixth Five-Year Development Plan to improve Thailand's production and marketing, including creating jobs.

Mr Kosit said the projects would be run by the Industry, Agriculture and Commerce ministries and the Tourism Authority of Thailand.

The projects would directly support the most important part of the Sixth Plan, which is the Production and Marketing Plan.

Government agencies would be pushed to pave way for the private sector to invest both in terms of acknowledgement and marketing assistance, he said.

Three sectors to be concentrated on are agriculture, industry and service business.

The Agriculture Ministry would be responsible for five projects to develop plantations, livestock and promoting new crops, while the Industry Ministry would take care of one project concerning small industry promotion, he said.

The Commerce Ministry would run five projects, those concentrating on product studies, standard and export possibilities, improving products' standards and creating export opportunities.

The Tourism Authority of Thailand would concentrate on tourist attraction developments, especially infrastructure in rural areas, in order to promote upcountry tourism.

To link the 12 projects together, Mr Kosit said there would be an official announcement of the 200 national products for the private sector to find interest.

All these products were well studied in various topics such as raw material, production, marketing and export opportunity, he said.

"The announcement will be given free, and all interested parties may obtain one at NESDB," he said.

However, Mr Kosit said the announcement of the 200 products was not aimed at encouraging the private sector to invest, such as the government promotion policy during the first part of the plan, until the Fifth Plan.

He said that although the upcountry economy had improved greatly during the five plans, several promoted plantations and productions appeared to have failed.

"Starting in the Sixth Plan, we will just prepare information needed by investors to support their interests. We will promote or encourage them no longer because we cannot act cleverer than others," he said.

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CSO: 4200/711

THAILAND

TOURISM, PROSTITUTION CONTROVERSY

Bangkok THE NATION in English 4 Feb 86 p 2

[Text]

THE promotion of tourism serves as a "double-edged sword" in both generating income for the country and making prostitution thrive.

That was the view agreed by some leading academics and social workers during a panel discussion at the AUA Auditorium yesterday to mark the second anniversary of the brothel blaze which killed five prostitutes in Phuket. The panel discussion was entitled "Tourism Policy and Its Effects" on Thai Women."

Dr Krirkkiat Phipatseritham from the Faculty of Economics, Thammasat University pointed out that during the period of economic hardships, with Thailand facing problems of trade deficits and high foreign debt service ratio, income from service industry including tourism has contributed to the survival of the country.

"It seems that our service industry has outgrown the agricultural and industrial production capacity. Judging from the

materialistic development and per capita income, Thailand has seen improvement. But regarding the quality of life, it's still doubtful."

Dr Krirkkiat said although the exact figure of how much Thailand earns from prostitution is never available, it is estimated that some 700,000 women are engaged in such profession which brings about 42,000 million baht of cash flow annually.

Despite the Tourism Authority of Thailand (TAT) advertising slogan "sea, sun and sand," practically the trip to Thailand turns out to be "sun, sand and sex," he said, adding that progression of tourism can be another factor to proliferate prostitution.

Opas Lertamphai, director of the International Convention Division of TAT, insisted

that tourism has never been promoted through prostitution. On the contrary, TAT with awareness of such bad reputation Thailand assumes, has been attempting to get away from such image.

Ironically, said Opas, prostitution has in effect reduced the number of prospective family package tours, with wives fearing sexual involvement resulting from such reputation.

"The problem is there. Tourism just comes as a variable. The solution lies in strict law enforcement," he said.

MP Dr Yupha Udomsak, Chairman of the House Committee on Culture and Tourism, voiced concerns over the fact that prostitution and economic plight are inseparable, and consequently uncontrollable. "But the point here is how can we protect other girls from being lured

into such profession, and those engaged from being exploited."

"The existing law seems to be valid on very unstable basis. Apparently in some tourist spots, namely Pattaya, officials simply do not touch such illegal deeds for the excuse that it's a tourist spot."

TAT, she commented, has stepped in to control tourism after it has long been dominated by private sector which tends to cater to service facilities rather than promote the nature and culture.

Prapoth, Sritet, chairman of the Northern People's Relations Group, said tourism promotion fertilizes the growth of prostitution, judging from privileges granted to build service facilities in places aimed to be developed as attractive tourist spots.

He said tourism has, according to his own experience, altered way of living of local people, especially the northerners. Girl prostitutes from the North has been the most popular and desirable, with the new trend favouring the hilltribes girls, he said.

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CSO: 4200/711

THAILAND

BANKER URGES EXPORT INDUSTRY PROMOTION

Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 30 Jan 86 p 17

[Text]

BANGKOK Bank's executive board chairman Dr Amnuay Virawan yesterday called on the Board of Investment to suspend promotion of import-substitute industries and to support export-oriented production instead.

He also urged the Government to carefully consider the plan to set up a new organisation to handle the country's export problems.

His suggestions were made during a seminar on "New Dimensions of Cooperation in Export Development and Promotion," organised by the Commercial Relations Department at the Central Plaza Hotel. The seminar, opened by Commerce Minister Surat Osathanukroh, was attended by about 1,000 government officials and exporters.

Dr Amnuay, who has been chosen as the Banker of the Year 1985, stated that under the present circumstances, export business is the only way out of the country's dilemma.

He said the country's base of export-oriented production is not big enough as past exports were not really intended and planned, with local producers catering primarily to the local market and only surplus production being exported.

"Despite various incentives given by the Government to encourage export-oriented production, this type of business is not well-developed when compared with the import-substitute business," he noted.

He said tariffs imposed on imported items to protect locally made products have encouraged industrial operators to sell their goods mainly in the domestic market, rather than going to the trouble of exporting them.

"Therefore, BoI should stop promoting import-substitute industries and concentrate on promoting export-oriented businesses instead," he added.

Dr Amnuay also suggested that if export-oriented industries are to be promoted, other measures would have to be used as well.

BASE

He said BoI should support the establishment of small and medium-size industries, which would

be the base for supplying raw materials to related industries.

For example, he said, a big garment plant, whose production is mainly for export, does not produce every raw material required, like zippers and threads, etc. If these industries could be promoted, it would broaden and strengthen the country's export base, he added.

Moreover, these small and medium-size industries would increase the value-added price of local products, which do not have to rely on imports for further processing before being re-exported as before, he said.

Dr Amnuay said 1985 was considered a disappointing year because the country's exports did not increase as targeted, despite the devaluation of the baht in late 1984.

Moreover, the country's unemployed reached 2 million, while the debt service ratio, which was earlier below 20%, went up to about 25% and would reach 27-28% if the

private sector's debts were taken into account, he said.

He urged the Government and private sector to cooperate in boosting the country's exports, noting that about 40% of the people's income involves international trade.

Regarding the plan to set up a Board of Exports, to be in charge of the country's exports, Dr Amnuay said the Government should consider the issue thoroughly.

He said it is very uncertain whether the new organisation would be able to solve the problems.

He also pointed out that such an organisation was once set up in 1962, but it was dissolved because of its ineffectiveness.

If it is to be established, clear guidelines should be laid down, regarding its roles and powers. Moreover, the management must be really efficient to operate such an organisation, he added.

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CSO: 4200/711

THAILAND

SOMMAI PREDICTS MORE AUSTERITY

Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 30 Jan 86 p 15

[Text]

FINANCE Minister Sommai Hoontrakul, after a five-hour meeting with top officials yesterday, announced that the Government will continue implementing its austerity expenditure policy next fiscal year.

But, he said that the meeting has not yet decided whether the Budget for the 1987 fiscal year would be of zero or minus growth.

"More meetings are needed," he said.

Yesterday's meeting was the first of its kind in setting the Budget for the next fiscal year.

Top officials who attended the meeting included Mr Sommai, his deputy Dr Suthee Singaneh, Permanent Secretary for Finance Dr Panas Simasathien, National Economic and Social Development Board Secretary General Dr Snoh Unakul, Budget Bureau Chief Bordin Chunnanon, General Comptroller Department Director General Pandit Bunyapana, Bank of Thailand Governor Kamchorn Sathirakul and his deputy, Chavalit Thana-phanan.

The meeting at the Finance Ministry, which began at about 2 p.m., ended at about 7 p.m.

Mr Sommai said that it was a brain-storming session to get an idea of the country's economic trend

in the next fiscal year and how the Budget should be set to be in line with the expected economic situation.

"It was unanimously agreed during the meeting that the Budget for next fiscal year must continue to be based on the austerity policy," he said.

This fiscal year, beginning last October, was the first year that the Government had introduced the zero-growth budget due to the expected serious revenue shortfall if the Budget was increased by the normal rate.

However, several parties expressed concern that the Government's zero-growth budget would seriously affect the economy because the Government was the biggest spender. The zero-growth budget would reduce the Government's investment in several projects.

But Mr Sommai said yesterday that the tax package approved by the Cabinet recently would be an efficient enough fiscal measure to stimulate the country's economy.

The recently approved tax package included the restructuring in oil taxes, higher deductions for personal income tax, lower corporate tax rates, and the widening of the tax base.

Mr Sommai said if the Government decided to inject money into the economic system to help spur it, "the Government could not determine how great the injection should be, and it is not the right measure in stimulating the economy".

He added that the tax package would benefit the economy in the long run.

Meanwhile, an informed source said that the Government's tax collection this fiscal year was expected to be about 15,000 million baht lower than the target.

"This is based on collection during the first three months of this fiscal year," the source said.

He said that the Finance Ministry would have to increase its tax collection efficiency to lower the shortfall.

"If it cannot boost the collection, the Budget for the next fiscal year will be set on the minus-growth principle," the source added.

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CSO: 4200/711

THAILAND

NEW CENTRAL BANK DEPARTMENT

Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 30 Jan 86 p 17

[Text]

THE Bank of Thailand yesterday announced the setting up of a new department to manage the newly established Rehabilitation and Development Fund, with Nopporn Ruangsakul as director.

According to spokeswoman Prapapim Skuntabhaya, the new Department for the Management of Rehabilitation and Development Funds was formed in accordance with the three new financial institution laws, which were approved by the Government as an urgent decree.

Mrs Prapapim said the new department will be responsible for looking into problems and finding measures to help financial institutions which require assistance from such a fund.

Other responsibilities of this department are: monitoring the money and capital market situation to consider the impact on the status and operation of financial institutions being aided by the fund; studying the

benefits in rehabilitating financial institutions; proposing methods of investment and management of the funds' assets; examining, monitoring and assessing the operations of the finance firms being assisted by the funds.

Mrs Prapapim added that the fund would also prepare the various accounting records, including documents and the statements of financial position.

She also said the department's work has been divided into three divisions: planning and examination, business, and accounting and finance.

She said Miss Nopporn, deputy director of the Commercial Bank Supervision and Examination Department, has been appointed as director of the new department.

Chaiwat Vibulsawad, deputy director of the Economic Research Department, will become acting deputy director of the Commercial Bank Supervision and Examination Department.

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CSO: 4200/711

THAILAND

CENTRAL BANK WANTS MORE FOREIGN BANKS

Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 31 Jan 86 p 17

[Article by Pattnapong Chantranontwong]

[Text]

THE Bank of Thailand favours more foreign banks to open their branches here and has proposed the idea to the Finance Ministry, Bank of Thailand Deputy Governor Chavalit Thanachanan said yesterday.

Mr Chavalit said that the Bank of Thailand wanted more competition in the local banking industry to encourage Thai banks to improve their efficiency.

"However, the consideration of this policy is beyond the authority of the Bank of Thailand," he said.

He said that the Bank of Thailand has proposed to the Finance Ministry that it consider allowing more foreign banks to set up branches here.

He said, however, that this would depend on the policy of the Finance Ministry, "and that the most important factor to be considered is the country's interest."

The deputy governor said that there was no country that allowed other countries to open branches without imposing certain conditions.

"The important conditions for Thailand concerns the interests of our international trade and investments," he said.

However, while the proposal is being considered by the Finance Ministry, Mr Chavalit said that the Bank of Thailand would try to reduce the restrictions for foreign banks to operate here.

"This includes permission for them to open representative offices here," he said.

Meanwhile, Finance Minister Sommai Hoontrakul said that the Finance Ministry was considering the central bank's proposal.

"But there are many important points that have to be considered carefully," Mr Sommai said.

Although the Bank of Thailand has proposed allowing more foreign banks to open branches here, the Finance Minister said: "A definite deci-

sion has not yet been reached."

But he personally viewed that there were currently enough foreign bank branches in operation here.

"The number of foreign bank branches is almost equal to Thai commercial banks," he said.

Currently, there are 16 Thai commercial banks and 14 banks incorporated abroad, including Bank of America, the Bank of Canton, the Bank of Tokyo, Banque Indosuez, Bharat Overseas Bank, the Standard Chartered Bank, the Chase Manhattan Bank, European Asian Bank, Four Seas Communications Bank, Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, the International Commercial Bank of China, the Citibank, Mitsui Bank and United

Malayan Banking Corporation Bhd.

Mr Sommai disagreed with criticisms that the Finance Ministry had limited the number of foreign bank branches operating here.

"They seem to be forgetting that the number of Thai commercial banks has been limited to only 16," he said.

Earlier, Bank of Thailand Financial Institutes Supervision and Examination Department Director Dr Supachai Panitchpakdi said that the policy concerning the number of foreign bank branches here was being reviewed.

He said that certain Thai banks were currently too weak because the competition was not high enough to induce them improve themselves.

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CSO: 4200/711

THAILAND

CENTRAL BANK NOT INTERVENING IN INTEREST RATES

Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 5 Feb 86 p 17

[Text]

DESPITE the call from several top bankers for the Bank of Thailand to lead the reduction of local interest rates, a senior official of the central bank yesterday said the bank will not intervene.

Dr Ekkamol Khirawat, director of the Bank of Thailand's Commercial Bank Supervision and Examination Department, said it was the commercial banks' decision to adjust the rates themselves to suit the situation.

He said the central bank will not intervene to bring down lending and deposit rates further, as it had done earlier this year.

His statement countered the interviews of certain senior central bankers, including Deputy Governor Chavalit Thanachanan, who said the Bank of Thailand has decided to change its policy on local interest rates.

Before the policy change, the central bank insisted on commercial banks adjusting their interest rates without the intervention of the central bank.

The central bank would fix only the ceil-

ings and each bank would adjust its rates under the ceilings, depending on market forces.

But Mr Chavalit admitted late last year that market forces had not worked and the central bank had to decide to lower the official ceilings as the actual interest rates at the time were too high.

He noted that the ceilings would be adjusted again if the economic situation changed.

At that time, the lending rate ceiling was lowered from 19% to 17% for general loans and to 15% for loans to priority sectors. Deposit rate ceilings were reduced from 14% to 11% for fixed deposits and from 9% to 8.5% for savings accounts.

However, Dr Ekkamol noted yesterday that any new intervention would only make commercial banks suffer more losses, as the

reduction of rates for deposits will not take immediate effect, while loan rates will be applied immediately.

He suggested that commercial banks try to match lendings with deposits and reduce the deposit mobilisation competition, as more deposits means higher costs for banks.

However, Siam Commercial Bank president Tarrin Nimmanhaeminda said last week that commercial banks should sacrifice their profits for further reduction of interest rates.

Although banks would be affected if the rates were cut further, he believes that this would be only a short-term effect and banks would recover in the long run.

"If the interest rate is not lowered, the banks' clients may not survive, and that would affect banks even more," Mr Tarrin said.

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CSO: 4200/711

THAILAND

LESE MAJESTE CONVICTS GET PARDONS

Bangkok THE NATION in English 25 Jan 86 p 5

[Text]

THREE men — one of them described by Amnesty International as a "prisoner of conscience" — who were convicted for lese majeste in 1983, have been granted royal pardons, informed sources said.

The sources said the three are Samarn Kongsuphol, a 35-year-old pharmacist, Thawal Saenkanchana and Pongthep Manoopipatpong.

The three were released from Lard Yao prison on Thursday evening, according to the sources.

Samarn was sentenced to eight years in jail in December, 1983 after he was found guilty of lese majeste in connection with the publication and distribution of a book called "Nine Kings of the Chakri Dynasty." The publication was critical of the Royal Family.

The other two defendants were given four years each in October the same year.

Police then ordered the confiscation of all copies of the publication which came to be known as the "yellow book."

Thawal is the owner of Charoen Printing House which printed the book while Pongthep was his employee.

The London-based Amnesty International and other foreign human rights groups had campaigned for a fair trial for Samarn.

The royal pardon was reportedly granted after mounting pressure from these organizations.

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CSO: 4200/711

THAILAND

BRIEFS

COMMUNISTS NOT ACTIVE--Communist insurgents are no longer active in southern provinces, according to commander of the Fourth Army Region Lieutenant General Wanchai Chitchamnong. The commander says crimes which are currently threatening peace and security in the south are mostly caused by ordinary criminals, not communist insurgents. He said it is now hard to find communist terrorists in the south as a result of the suppression operations undertaken by the authorities. Lt Gen Wanchai confirmed that the communist movement in the south had been completely defeated. It shows that the suppression operations undertaken by the military and the related agencies over the past 3 years have proved a success. He said a lot of communist insurgents were arrested and many of them surrendered. [Text] [Bangkok Domestic Service in English 0000 GMT 17 Feb 86 BK] /12232

PREM VISITS PRACHUAP--Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon yesterday visited Deputy Prime Minister General Prachuap Suntharangkun to wish him a quick recovery from a successful lung operation at Phrommit Hospital. Hospital Doctor Phrao Niwatwong said that Gen Prachuap was recovering quickly. "We (the team of doctors treating him) are satisfied with his recovery. He is okay and can speak now," the doctor said. He said that Gen Prachuap has been moved from the Intensive Care Unit (ICU) and would need 7 to 10 days to recover at the hospital. There were no complications as a result of the operation he said. [Text] [Bangkok THE NATION in English 17 Feb 86 p 1 BK] /12232

U.S. RADAR SYSTEM PURCHASE--Bangkok, 18 February (AFP)--Thai Supreme Commander General Athit Kamlang-ek says Thailand had ordered mobile radar equipment from the United States to boost defense capabilities along the Thai-Cambodian border, the THAI NEWS AGENCY said today. Gen Athit confirmed yesterday that Thailand placed an order for the equipment 3 years ago on a government-to-government basis, the official agency said. He declined to specify the number of counter-battery radars called Firefinders to be acquired or the delivery date, the agency added. Firefinder can calculate the location of enemy guns from shell trajectories, a Thai military source has said, adding that this would lead to savings in ammunition costs since less return fire would be needed to knock out artillery positions. Aided by Firefinders, Thai artillery would be able to fire back even before enemy shells landed. Thailand would be the first Asian country to get this sophisticated equipment, the source added. [Text] [Hong Kong AFP in English 0552 GMT 18 Feb 86 HK] /12232

ATHIT SAYS NO POLITICS--Supreme Commander General Athit Kamlang-ek reiterated yesterday he harboured no ambitions to enter politics and would think about what to do next only "when the time arrives." "I've never thought of wanting to be this or that. My only ambition nowadays is to fulfill my present duty... building up the armed forces to defend the country." Gen Athit said. "I will think about other things when the time comes," Gen Athit added. The supreme commander comments came after he was asked by reporters if he planned to run in a by-election in Loei Province as urged recently by an MP. [Text] [Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 18 Feb 86 p 3 BK] /12232

TALKS ON FARM ACT--American agricultural officers pledged fair treatment for Thai rice exports in recent talks on the world market, Agriculture Permanent Secretary Thaloeng Thamrongnawasawat said yesterday. Mr Thaloeng joined the Commerce Ministry officials in talks last week in the United States on the Farm Act which will come into effect 15 April. The official said the U.S. representatives in the talks pledged fair treatment after hearing of the Thai concern that farmers would be affected by dumping on the world market. Faced with the impact of the U.S. legislation, the ministry has adopted a policy to make farmers switch from rice to other cash crops. Under this policy, farmers would be asked to turn over unyielding rice growing areas to alternative crops. Mr Thaloeng also said the production of raw materials for industries should be promoted, particularly those in demand on foreign markets. [Text] [Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in English 1500 GMT 19 Feb 86 BK] /12232

CSO: 4200/709

COALITION GOVERNMENT OF DEMOCRATIC KAMPUCHEA

COLUMNIST REVIEWS RESISTANCE PROSPECTS, PRK POSITIONS

Anti-SRV Military Positions

Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 7 Feb 86 p 4

[Article by Jacques Bekaert]

[Text]

NOW you have KPNLF against PCCS, princes against generals, PRK soldiers against their protectors, Vietnamese troops against frustration and bad diet. Is Pol Pot in or out? The military situation in and around Kampuchea is far from clear and everybody seems to have his share of problems. At first glance, nobody appears to win, least of all the Kampuchean people who are still struggling to regain some kind of normality in their daily life.

Let's start with the nationalists. Their problems, big and small, are certainly better known and exposed than those of anyone else involved in this sad adventure. They talk a lot, issuing forth press releases and communiques whenever they sneeze, and are about as secretive as a Hollywood star who survives on public gossips.

To celebrate New Year, the Khmer People's National Liberation Front provided Kampuchean watchers with a classic "a la Republican" home-made suspense and personal struggles were dressed as ideological crisis. The group that launched the provisional rebel committee probably had good intentions and motives. But when you play politics, make sure you have a chance to survive before you jump from the roof of the house. The People's Republic of China, the resistance's No 1 sponsor, was not amused by the dissidence.

China may have very little illusion about the military capacities of the KPNLF or the ANS and, partly as a

consequence, does not worry too much about the lack of cooperation between the nationalists. But the People's Republic is very serious when it comes to the political role of Prince Sihanouk and Mr Son Sann. It does not want any changes at the top. Three factions signed the Kuala Lumpur agreement, and three factions will remain present throughout the Kampuchean drama.

The FUNCINPEC-ANS have a few problems of their own, although no one there would even think of creating a dissident faction or ask Prince Sihanouk to retire. They know at least that the very existence of the Prince is worth a few divisions and that inside Kampuchea (or on the international front) the name of Samdech Sihanouk is worth dozens of missiles). You can, of course, convince somebody by using force. I guess the Khmer Rouge must resort to such methods once in a while. But the name "Sihanouk" brings back memories of a time when Kampuchea was its own master. The memory of peace. No one has anything better to offer yet.

But the problems are there, regarding the way to wage political warfare, regarding the control of funds or the use of power. At the same time, it should be said that the National Sihanoukist Army is not totally an illusion. A good segment of it is inside Kampuchea, and recently there were a few examples of cooperation with Khmer Rouge units.

One such joint action took place on January 25 somewhere east of Bat-

tambang, when the ANS and soldiers from the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea at 3.35 in the morning launched a coordinated attack on four Vietnamese positions on both sides of a small river.

In other areas further north and west, the ANS still complains of regular problems with KR units believed to be under the control of Ta Mok. One incident, on January 2, was especially bloody, with deaths on both sides.

MUTINIES

Facing (at least in theory) the resistance, the "Heng Samrin soldiers," the armed forces of the People's Republic of Kampuchea do not seem to fare much better. Mutinies — even if every incident of the last wave of rebellions has not yet been fully confirmed — appear to be frequent although not always on the same grandiose scale. Such problems have existed since the foundation of the army back in 1978.

The most recent informations regarding the PRK armed forces that we received mentioned a group of 300 "Heng Samrin" soldiers from the 81st regiment who decided to give up and contacted the ANS in the area of Siem Reap. One Khmer source claimed they took 263 weapons with them.

More than seven years after it first saw combat, the PRKAF is still as uncertain and unreliable as ever, at least from Hanoi's point of view. Khmers may argue a lot between themselves but there is also a deep complicity when facing foreigners and the irony is that at the end the PRK army could prove more of a weakness than a strength for the Vietnamese.

Apparently 24 Kampuchean pilots, trained in the USSR and in Bien Hoa, are now ready for action on MIG 21 or MI 24 gunships. It would be interesting to see if Vietnam is ready to let them fly their machines by themselves...

The People Army of Vietnam is a very good army. No one will deny that. The "bo doi" have demonstrated their valour and courage again and again. But it is time also to realise that they are no supermen. The war in Kampuchea drags on and even observers sympathetic to Phnom Penh agree that the resistance has made its presence increasingly felt in almost every province. Last year, we saw the partial implementation of the "K5" Vietnamese plan for Kampuchea. It concerned the construction of a strong border barrage, a kind of poor people's Berlin Wall, to prevent further incursion from the resistance inside Kampuchea. And according to a reliable source, we are going to witness the execution of "K6," a new step involving the construction of a similar wall, this time around the capital Phnom Penh.

Another well-informed diplomatic source has claimed that the PAVN is facing more than just the hostile actions of the resistance (mainly but not only from the Khmer Rouge). Vietnamese soldiers are said to suffer from malnutrition. One of the possible reasons is that the rice sent to Kampuchea by international agencies is, unlike Vietnamese rice, "polished rice." It is of better quality but contains less minerals and, as a result, provides the troops with an unbalanced diet. Other reports — probably based on the debriefing of defectors and Khmers reaching the border — mention severe lack of medicine, breaches of discipline and use of drugs including local marijuana. And, last but not least, the apparition of a problem affecting every group or army fighting in Kampuchea (with the possible exception of the Khmer Rouge): alcoholism. Some PAVN units in Kampuchea are said to be from now on denied liquor.

What about the Khmer Rouge? They seem to be doing fine. They maintain their usual secrecy over whatever internal problems they may experience, and their progress inside Kampuchea are impressive. Not every report broadcast over the Voice of Democratic Kampuchea should be accepted at face value, but,

on the other hand, it should not be discarded as just another lie either. There is always an element of propaganda but more and more it is based on some real action.

Not only is most of the DK army far inside Kampuchea but once there, it is also well organised, with abundant caches (some dating from 1975) and enough money or gold to buy food from the peasants. Supplies coming from the border are mostly military equipment, uniforms and medicine. No more food.

BLUFF

Last year, the DK military command said its main objective was no longer the Tonle Sap but Phnom Penh, the capital. Now it appears that this is not a bluff but the reality and it is time everybody takes notice. So while each army involved in the Kampuchean conflict is showing signs of exhaustion, the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea can claim some basic success.

Recently, Moscow has reiterated its support for a political solution to the conflict. It is also ASEAN's position and Prince Sihanouk's old dream. It would be a great relief for the poor people of Kampuchea, the first victims of the endless war. Kampuchea has a natural leader and certainly a lot of capable people, from Site 2 to Phnom Penh (given the terrible ordeal suffered by the country since 1970, the quality and competence of the present administration in Phnom Penh is in fact quite impressive). At the present time everybody is suspicious of everybody. It is almost the only undisputed fact. And it will probably be the case as long as better lines of communications are not established between the parties involved, including perhaps most of all the Kampuchean themselves. There will be ample time for conflicts of personalities among leaders once peace is back over Kampuchea-Cambodia... At least the "little people" will be able to live their lives as they want.

Khmer Rouge Strength

Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 31 Jan 86 p 4

[Article by Jacques Bekaert]

[Text]

THE conflict that rocked one of the two nationalist groups involved in the anti-Vietnamese resistance in Kampuchea, of course, did little to enhance the credibility of the non-communists.

And whatever the motivation on either side, the loser so far has been the nationalist cause itself. An article published a week ago in the *Singapore Straits Times* titled "Sihanoukists are heading for a split" already created new fear among the supporters and sponsors of the resistance, although the problems faced by the Nationalist Sihanoukist Army (ANS) were nowhere as crucial as those just experienced by the KPNLF.

First, the structure of the ANS and of the entire Sihanoukist movement is different. Prince Sihanouk's leadership has never been at stake. He is the undisputed boss and his words, when it comes to the FUNCINPEC and the ANS, are final.

Second, even if Prince Norodon Ranariddh, the supreme commander of the ANS, and General Teap Ben, the commander-in-chief, have their differences and conflicting views, neither has been thinking of creating a new and separate entity.

What the dissident group of the KPNLF apparently wanted, as expressed in the letter sent by General Sak Sutsakhan to Mr Son Sann on January 23, was simply to take over the entire organisation. The Executive Committee (Exco) which is the legislative body of the KPNLF had, in the view of the members of the Provisional Central Committee of Salvation of the KPNLF (CPPS), to be replaced by themselves. As for Mr Son Sann, he could at best be considered as "honorary president of the KPNLF, a symbolic figure" with a purely ceremonial role.

Most sympathisers of the nationalists are still rather puzzled by the events of the past few weeks. "I don't understand why some of those leaders left a rather comfortable life in America or in France to come here in order to fight among themselves," said one long-time diplomatic observer of the Kampuchean scene.

"It's just like during Lon Nol time" was another and frequent comment, one made not only by diplomats or ASEAN officials but also by Kampuchean cadres and refugees along the border.

"Maybe Prince Sihanouk could help the KPNLF. Should he decide to be an impartial and fair judge, he could do more than anyone," a KPNLF official told us recently. It is a fairly ironic twist, given the fact that one of the characteristics of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front has always been a certain degree of suspicion towards the former King of Cambodia.

At the core of the debate among the two KPNLF factions and, to a certain degree, the ANS, is the question: who should be in charge of the military affairs? The favourite answer is: let the military deal with the war and the politicians with the political and diplomatic side of the resistance.

It has been said that one of the reasons why the Front was experiencing so much problems on the battlefield was because of the "interference" by Mr Son Sann. While no one has ever pretended that the prime minister of the coalition government was a great military expert, it should be said in all fairness that recently the KPNLF president had hardly any involvement in military matters.

But perhaps there is a more important point to be made, one that seems to have, to a fair degree, escaped the attention of many observers and friends of the nationalist resistance.

A guerrilla war, a war of national liberation is not just a war where two clearly defined armies are opposed. The conflict going on in Kampuchea has little to do with World War II or the Korean War. It is first and above all a political war, a conflict between different regimes. What is at stake are the hearts and minds of the Kampuchean people.

Communist regimes, given their specific nature, have always considered the army as a part and an extension of the Party. The People's Army of Vietnam is a very good example of such an organisation.

"It seems very strange that people want to separate so much the politicians and the military," a Western diplomat who is favourable to the nationalist resistance told us a few days ago. "In the kind of war we have in Kampuchea the input of the civilian leaders is extremely important. This is not a conventional war."

He added that to exclude the civilians from military decisions would be to deprive the resistance from "creative thinking."

Once again the experience of past communist insurgencies constitutes the best example of how to win a political war. Not that the same ideology should be adopted but the basic organisation still today appears very sound. One of the problems of the nationalists is their basic lack of "ideological" commitment.

Many of the soldiers are attached and faithful to a local leader, more than to a cause. Should some troubles

develop among the leadership, the entire organisation — including its military arm — is in danger of collapse or at least prone to become inefficient.

The most effective component of the coalition government — the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea (the Khmer Rouge) — is very much a political army. Most unit commanders are chosen from the rank and file after they have proved their capacity. Political classes are provided by the main leaders. Discipline seems to be strictly enforced although, according to certain sources, the idea of material rewards has also been introduced.

Can the nationalists still find the moral resources and be creative enough to make a difference on the battlefield? They possess the basic manpower, they have enough weapons, but it remains to be seen if they can develop the kind of grassroots leadership with the indispensable

mixed capacities: military and political.

Most observers believe that their best weapons are political. They probably represent a form of society and regime most favoured by the majority of the Kampuchean people. How to get that idea across to the population of Kampuchea is probably the main problem they will face in the next few months or years.

Recently, there has been enough reports of various origins to convince most independent observers that the Khmer Rouge are doing quite well inside Kampuchea. The reassuring propaganda they spread among villagers is backed by their presence and their apparent capacity to build parallel forms of political control.

It is not sufficient to send hundreds or thousands of men inside a country if they don't know what to do and how to survive long enough to make an impact... Or if they are not too sure themselves of why they are there.

Background to KPNLF Leadership Struggle

Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 5 Feb 86 p 4

[Article by M.H. Lao]

[Excerpts]

THE crisis within the leadership of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front following the expulsion of two of its leading cadres, Dr Gaffar Peng-Meth and Mr Hing Kunthorn, and the subsequent formation of the Provisional Central Committee of Salvation to topple its president, Mr Son Sann, is a very sad event for those who wish to see the Vietnamese occupying troops withdrawn to their own frontiers, the independence and sovereignty of Kampuchea restored or communist expansionism rolled back. It is bound to weaken at least temporarily the resolve of the democratic anti-Vietnamese forces and could reduce the support these forces have received from their own compatriots and from peace-loving peoples around the world.

The same crisis has alienated further the rights of Kampucheans who are living inside the country or in the Thai-Kampuchean border regions including the refugee camps the KPNLF has controlled, when the opposing factions have claimed that they have the support of friendly

foreign powers and some groups of Kampuchean emigres in order to prove their legitimacy. These claims give an impression that the source of their legitimacy and authority no longer resides with the people in Kampuchea, a sad feature characteristic of the Kampuchean history.

Equally sad is that the "coup" of the PCCS could set a bad precedent, damaging the democratisation of Kampuchean politics which the KPNLF has been pursuing and offering as a clear alternative to communism — a course that has already subjected the Kampucheans to the Khmer Rouge holocaust and later to Vietnamese thralldom.

However, one could take some comfort in the fact that this internal conflict, bitter as it is, has not brought any bloodshed or brutal repression as would normally have been the case with the communist groups; and in the prospect that, after the crisis, the leadership of this non-communist anti-Vietnamese resistance movement would be fitter and more effective.

Whatever the outcome, be it a compromise or the victory of either faction, the basic issue of unity and discipline within the KPNLF still remains and that the leadership would have to tackle it head on. It would have to examine some cold facts that have dominated its rank and file and hampered the enforcement of its orders and directives thus far. Some of these facts are but the legacies of the past regimes. Unless these legacies are known and understood, the KPNLF could not solve that problem.

It seems that, on top of the centrifugal forces created by political regimes, social upheavals, wars and Vietnamese occupation, some supporters of the Kampuchean cause have added some more. At times relief workers and foreign government officials, for the efficiency of their own services, have by-passed the KPNLF leadership and dealt directly with its officials without its knowledge. The selection of Kampuchean refugees for resettlement in third countries has affected the strength and discipline within the KPNLF rank and file. It has creamed off an unproportionally high number of well-to-do, more educated and moderate elements, thus draining the KPNLF of directly useful human resources which a democratic liberation movement needs. Among the selected there are KPNLF cadres who can no longer put up with the living conditions in the border regions. In some cases the "success" in resettlement has generated some degree of envy and bitterness among those who stay behind.

Within the Kampuchean community and the KPNLF rank and file there has been an accumulation of centrifugal forces, tensions, ill feelings and frustration which all together have conditioned disobedience and unruliness, if not despair itself. It seems that they have been sustained by the heterogenous structure of this non-communist movement. The KPNLF is originally an amalgamation of several autonomous groups fighting the Khmer Rouge regime since the fall of Phnom Penh in April 1975. The leaders of these groups are former Kampuchean military cadres of various ranks. Some have managed to have more followers than others regardless of their former ranks. They tend to want their own way and jealously guard their own

"fields." The exertion of this autonomy is all the more strong and conspicuous among those who happen to control "lucrative" border crossings. This setting has not helped, for instance, formerly higher ranking military officers within the leadership, to exert their authority on their better established "subordinates" when they do not have any troops of their own or have joined the struggle only after the foundation of the KPNLF. In many cases, the former military hierarchy counts little. What does now seem to be the number of followers and especially soldiers under one's control.

Within the civilian administration the establishment of authority and hierarchy has been marred by similar problems.

Another difficulty that the leadership has been facing in exerting their authority on the whole rank and file of the movement is its lack of resources to sustain their livelihood. All are in fact voluntary unpaid fighters and have to manage on their own for their livelihood.

Against the background painted above, it does not seem likely that a one-man or collective dictatorship would be the answer to the problem of unity and discipline within the KPNLF, however tempting such a solution may be. To start with, the well-established cadres, military and civilian alike, do not seem to want to have an imposingly strong personality to lead them. The fact that only very few less well-established cadres have turned to Prince Sihanouk after he had joined the armed struggle is a testimony to those cadres' unwillingness to accept dictatorship.

ALIENATED

In the Kampuchean context, dictatorship has always brought suffering and there is no evidence to suggest that it could do better. Prince Sihanouk has once said quite rightly that the Kampucheans "always have terrible leaders who make them suffer." At the moment, the chance of finding a good, enlightened, visionary dictator or a philosopher king among the Kampucheans is virtually nil. Therefore, it is almost certain that that dictatorship would be led by terrible leaders again. It would at best perpetuate the narrow individualism of self-seekers, disunity, indis-

cipline, let alone corruption and nepotism which the post-revolutionary Kampucheans are no longer prepared to put up with. At worst, it would lead to a bloody repression the Kampucheans have already known too well.

The leadership crisis has polarised opinion right through the entire movement and the Kampuchean community the KPNLF controls. Without a compromise, the defeated faction and its followers would be alienated with the likelihood that the KPNLF would be weakened further if the victorious group tried to enforce a dictatorial rule.

Perhaps one way of strengthening the unity and discipline, and thus ensuring a more effective and successful struggle against the Vietnamese occupying troops, is to improve the democratic rule and broaden its application throughout the movement and within the Kampuchean community. This rule would ensure more equality of opportunity, more justice and more freedom, which the Kampucheans have been crying for but which the communists have denied them. Democratic procedures would enable the rank and file to vent their grievances which, if bottled up for too long, would explode or lead to despair.

They would give all Kampucheans a say and a stake in the running of the resistance movement as well as their community. They are likely to be a better and more effective means to adopt and implement meritocracy. Thus, the KPNLF could not only keep its existing able cadres, but also recruit more of similar calibre because this group of Kampucheans, willing as they have always been to serve the resistance, tends to shun dictatorial rules and nepotism these rules have invariably engendered. Just as dictatorial rules — first thought to be unifying, turn out to be divisive in real life, so democratic rules — first thought to be divisive, may well unite the KPNLF rank and file, in fact all Kampucheans, in their fight for independence.

The Kampucheans are not entirely unfamiliar with these democratic rules. Since 1947, whenever elections were held, they took part in them enthusiastically and used their democratic rights sensibly. After all, Mr Son Sann and two of his opponents in the PCCS, Messrs Huy Kanthoul and Chhean Vam, are well-known old-time democrats.

/9317

CSO: 4200/713

COALITION GOVERNMENT OF DEMOCRATIC KAMPUCHEA

REFUGEES MAY BE HOSTAGES TO CGDK POLICY

Bangkok THE NATION in English 9 Feb 86 p 3

[Excerpt]

THE 230,000 Kampucheans living in camps along the Thai-Kampuchean border are trapped in a sort of bureaucratic and political limbo.

Many of the border people want to go home, but they can't — either because the war makes doing so too dangerous or because the various political forces controlling the camps won't let them out.

Most of the 52,000 people who live in Khmer Rouge-controlled camps simply can't leave. The Khmer Rouge — the communist faction of the opposition Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea — keeps a tight grip on its last remaining civilians.

Thailand regards the border people as illegal immigrants — not refugees. As such, they are not eligible for resettlement in a third country. (The only people who are eligible are the approximately 17,000 inhabitants of the Khao-I-Dang centre administered by the UN High Commissioner for Refugees). Even if the Kampucheans were eligible for resettlement, the Thais, the Khmer opposition coalition, and the coalition's backers in China and the West would probably be loath to see the border population reduced.

Observers say these people are the only tangible proof of a mass base for the coalition government. And they bring much-needed food to the area. Each gets 1,900 calories a day from United Nations Border Relief Operations. The food is restricted to civilians, but border workers admit that they have no way of distinguishing civilians from guerrillas.

This year, a major new camp has been created on the border. About 120,000 Kampucheans live under the control of one of the non-communist factions in the coalition: the Khmer People's National Liberation Front (KPNLF) led by Son Sann. "Site 2," as the UN calls it, lies about 37 miles from the Thai frontier town of Aranyaprathet. The new camp was created in September by the transfer of 53,000 people from another KPNLF

camp.

Thai officials say the new camp will provide better facilities for the border people. But another reason for the move is thought to be the growing problem of banditry against camp inhabitants allegedly by renegade Khmer guerrillas.

Both the UN and the KPNLF itself are anxious about security at the new site. UN officials have urged the faction to move all armed men out of Site 2. But the KPNLF's military bases, including its headquarters, are located within a few kilometres of the camp.

Faction officials say the bases are being moved far from the camp, but it is not clear if the move has been carried out yet. Meanwhile, Vietnamese troop movement has been detected around the camp — the most recent last week.

The situation in the Khmer Rouge-controlled camps, however, is much grimmer. Reliable sources say that civilians in two major Khmer Rouge camps have regularly signalled their desire over the last few months to move away from the faction's control. The Khmer Rouge has apparently responded by tightening its grip.

Usually reliable sources report unspecified disciplinary measures at Samrong Kiat, on the northern part of the Thai-Kampuchean border. About 10,000 people live in the camp under Khmer Rouge control.

In Site 8, the largest Khmer Rouge civilian settlement (population about 25,000), informed sources estimate that about 10,000 Khmer civilians have been moved from the camp over the past few months. They have been taken to Site 8 North, a Khmer Rouge military encampment thought to be the rear base of the Khmer Rouge's 320th division, a couple miles due north. The UN relief operation recently cut off food aid to Site 8 North on the grounds that it was not given sufficient access to the camp to monitor the end-use of the aid.

Some of those moved were family groups, others were young men. Sources with regular access to the camp say that the moves are usually not voluntary. The people are taken away, the sources believe, for the army or to act as porters for the military.

"You're asked once if you want to go," said one observer. "You're asked again, and then you go — or else something happens to you." Some who refused to go were later injured by a mine, the worker added.

The camp's Khmer Rouge leadership — which includes the nephew of the titular Khmer Rouge leader Khieu Samphan — recently tried to move Site 8 to another, more controllable location. First they told the camp residents that the present area was unsafe, regular visitors to the camp say. Soon after, the camp residents heard artillery shelling close by. But most of the shelling is reliably reported to have come from the Khmer Rouge itself — to back up its claim that the camp was insecure.

CSO: 4200/730

COALITION GOVERNMENT OF DEMOCRATIC KAMPUCHEA

SIHANOUK RESHUFFLES TOP ANS COMMANDERS

Bangkok THE NATION in English 9 Feb 86 p 3

[Text] **KHMER resistance leader Prince Norodom Sihanouk recently appointed Prince Rannaridh to top military slots in his Army of Nationalist Sihanoukists (ANS) in what is seen as a move to enable his son to exercise full control over the non-communist resistance force.**

Rannaridh's spokesman Pen Dareth told *The Nation* that the young prince was made ANS commander-in-chief and chief-of-staff in the reshuffle order which was sent here from Peking at the end of last month.

Gen Teap Ben lost the two positions to Rannaridh and was named deputy commander-in-chief of the ANS. He retains his post as deputy commander of the inactive Joint Military Command (JMC) which was formed recently to direct and coordinate the military activities of the ANS and the Khmer People's National Liberation Front (KPNLF), the two non-communist forces in an anti-Vietnamese coalition.

Pen Dareth said the Prince Rannaridh is concurrently representative of the supreme commander, a position which Prince Sihanouk holds ex-officio as president of the FUNCINPEC Movement, the political arm of the ANS.

Rannaridh was made representative of the supreme commander last year, the spokesman said. Asked about the reasons behind the reshuffle, the spokesman only quoted the appointment order as citing "necessity" to justify the changes in the top ranks of the ANS.

Pen Dareth said that Prince Norodom Chakkrapong, the deputy chief-of-staff of the ANS, was not affected in the minor reshuffle. "It's a small change. Gen Teap Ben still remains deputy commander of the JMC," Pen Dareth said.

The activities of the JMC has been, however, suspended pending the settlement of a row in the top echelon of the KPNLF. Gen Sak Sutsakhan, leader of the dissident faction in the KPNLF, is JMC commander. Pen Dareth said that Gen Toan Chay, a right-hand man of Gen Teap Ben, remains operations commander.

Pen Dareth confirmed that the CGDK president had decided to postpone his trip to Thailand and other ASEAN nations to August. Sihanouk was initially scheduled to embark on his ASEAN tour late this month and wind up his tour next month.

The spokesman cited a telegram from the prince as reasoning that he had to postpone the trip because of his eye problems.

The prince, he said, would be hospitalized on Feb 17. The telegram does not refer to the reported rift within the ANS as the reason for the adjournment, the spokesman said.

He said he had no knowledge of a reported two-page note which was purportedly written by the prince to explain the decision. The prince reportedly said in the note that he wanted the conflict between his son and Teap Ben to be resolved before visiting Thailand.

Informed sources said they believe the conflict was personal rather than ideological.

Speculations have been rife that the ANS generals were dissatisfied with the reshuffle.

ASEAN sources said the prince had cited health problem and his commitment to visit Pyongyang to celebrate his birthday there as reasons to postpone the trip.

"I am sorry that the prince attached more importance to some engagements than to his friends (ASEAN countries)," one ASEAN source commented.

ANS representatives said Rannaridh was investigating reports that the Khmer Rouge may have attacked ANS fighters.

Informed sources, who spoke on condition they were not named, said Khmer Rouge forces killed a battalion commander and possibly as many as 11 other ANS fighters in northwestern Siem Reap-Oddar Meanchey Province between January 23 to 27.

They said the attackers were subordinates of Ta Mok, a senior leader blamed for atrocities against Kampuchean people during the Khmer Rouge's April 1975 to January 1979 rule.

ANS and Khmer Rouge guerrillas achieved a breakthrough in cooperation by jointly attacking Vietnamese troops in western Battambang

Province on January 19 and 20, according to ANS statements this week.

Sihanouk, president of the United Nations-recognized Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea said last year that "if Khmer Rouge once more kill Sihanoukists who are their allies in the coalition, my decision to leave this coalition...will be irrevocable and irreversible."

He made the pledge in a July 20 telegram to Rannaridh after learning that the Khmer Rouge killed 38 ANS fighters between February and June 1985. — Reuter/Nation

CSO: 4200/730

COALITION GOVERNMENT OF DEMOCRATIC KAMPUCHEA

VONADK URGES CAMBODIANS TO AVOID BEING RECRUITED

BK140751 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in
Cambodian 2315 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Unattributed, undated appeal]

[Text] 1. The compatriots who have been recruited by the Vietnamese aggressors from various provinces throughout Cambodia and sent to clear bush, transport materiel, carry corpses and wounded soldiers, and clear mines on the western border battlefield have continued to flee home. On the route 10-Pailan battlefield alone, more than 8,000 recruited workers recently fled back home. They were able to do so because:

- A. Our national army attacked the Vietnamese enemies;
- B. Our national army stimulated our people to flee by distributing leaflets, relaying word of mouth information by our informants planted within the population, and appealing and propagandizing.

The best chance for our people to flee is when our national army attacks the Vietnamese enemies, since the Vietnamese will then be engaged in the fight. At that time, our people should persuade each other to flee, turn against the Vietnamese enemies, cause chaos, or just flee.

To reach this end:

- A. Our national army must intensify activities against the Vietnamese enemies in accordance with our new five attack tactics in all areas.
- B. In the areas and battlefields where the people are engaged in labor, our national army must launch all forms of attack against the Vietnamese enemies in order to turn their attention to us and cause chaos, thus enabling our people to flee home.

2. We would like to appeal to our parents, brothers, and sisters as follows:

- A. You should try to avoid being recruited by the Vietnamese enemies from your villages.

B. If you failed to avoid Vietnamese recruitment, and you should find a way to flee on the way from your villages.

C. You should try to flee even after being sent to the battlefields. You should flee by sneaking away from worksites, persuading each other to flee while the Vietnamese enemies are engaged in the fight against our national army, jointly attacking the Vietnamese guards and contacting our national soldiers working nearby in order to find ways to attack the Vietnamese enemies and seize the chance to flee.

You should find all ways to flee back home.

/8309

CSO: 4212/58

11 March 1986

COALITION GOVERNMENT OF DEMOCRATIC KAMPUCHEA

VODK COMMENTARY ON NATIONAL UNION

BK190944 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT
16 Feb 86

[Station Commentary: "The Entire Cambodian People, All Cambodian Patriotic Resistance Forces, and the CGDK Continue to Strengthen the Great National Union To Fight the Vietnamese Enemy Aggressors and Race Exterminators Until They Agree to Withdraw All Their Aggressor Troops From Cambodia in Accordance With the UN Resolutions"]

[Text] The Hanoi Vietnamese enemy aggressors have a definite goal in sending hundreds of thousands of troops to attack and annex Cambodia in flagrant violation of the principles of international law and the UN Charter. They have attempted to swallow up Cambodia not only to exert their colonial yoke over the Cambodian nation and people but also to exterminate the Cambodian race and destroy the whole Cambodian nation so that they can swallow up Cambodian territory and make it a part of Vietnam. During the past over 7 years, the Vietnamese enemy aggressors have systematically massacred the Cambodian people with all the means at their disposal, including conventional weapons, toxic chemicals, famine, and the implementation of their Vietnamization policy. A total of more than 2.5 million innocent Cambodians have died tragically, and millions of others have become refugees, leaving their villages, houses, ricefields, and farmlands. These refugees have settled in forests and mountainous areas or fled to other countries.

However, the entire Cambodian people will not let the Vietnamese enemy aggressors swallow up Cambodian territory, exterminate the Cambodian race, transform Cambodia into a part of Vietnam and make its people into Vietnamese. Facing the serious crimes committed by the Vietnamese enemy aggressors, the entire Cambodian people and all Cambodian resistance forces have united in the great national union around the CGDK. They have raised the banner of struggle and have fought valiantly and courageously against the Vietnamese enemy aggressors and race exterminators for the defense of their beloved nation and race. The broad, strong and great national union of the Cambodian people has led the Cambodian patriotic resistance forces and the CGDK in a more vigorous struggle against the Vietnamese enemy in all fields including the military, political, and diplomatic battlefields. This has left the Vietnamese enemy aggressors defeated, bogged down, and faced with many more difficulties. In particular, the Hanoi Vietnamese enemy aggressors are now deeply sinking in the ocean of guerrilla warfare waged by the Cambodian people and Cambodian

resistance forces and are quickly sliding toward final defeat. On the international scene, the Vietnamese enemy aggressors have been denounced and condemned by everybody and are more isolated than ever. Due to their expansionist and aggressive nature and their stubbornness, and although they have encountered such a difficult situation, the Hanoi Vietnamese enemy aggressors do not want to abandon their aggressive and expansionist ambitions nor withdraw their aggressor troops from Cambodia in conformity with the UN resolutions and the calls by the international community. They have continued to stage various tricky maneuvers in the military and diplomatic fields in an attempt to extricate themselves from their present difficult and isolated situation. When one of their maneuvers fails, they seek another, and if that also fails they play another trick. Among these maneuvers, the Vietnamese enemy aggressors have made every effort to split the tripartite resistance forces of the CGDK so that these forces are unable to unite and pursue their struggle. The Hanoi Vietnamese enemy aggressors know that if Cambodian patriotic resistance forces and the entire Cambodian people continue to unite in the great national union and wage a vigorous struggle against them, they will not be able to exterminate the Cambodian nation and race nor swallow Cambodian territory and they will definitely be defeated.

In the past 7 years, the Vietnamese enemy aggressors have used every trick to divide the CGDK and the tripartite Cambodian resistance forces. Recently, they sought to drag various Cambodian parties into holding talks with their lackeys in Phnom Penh. They have made propaganda against the CGDK and created conflicts inside it. The Hanoi Vietnamese enemy aggressors' aim is to weaken the Cambodian patriotic resistance forces and completely destroy them so that they are unopposed in their effort to swallow the Cambodian nation and territory.

However, the entire Cambodian people and all Cambodian patriotic resistance forces know the tricky nature of the Vietnamese and their expansionist policy. The Cambodian people are not so naive as to be cheated by the Vietnamese enemy aggressors. The Cambodian people, the CGDK, and all Cambodian resistance forces have closely united and cooperated with one another. They have continued to raise high the banner of struggle and have fought more vigorously against the Vietnamese enemy aggressors in all fields including the military field on the battlefields and the political and diplomatic fields on the international scene. We are more united, have more understanding, and have cooperated well with each other in our fight against the Vietnamese.

The Cambodian people and the CGDK clearly realize that real and permanent peace cannot be restored in Cambodia unless Vietnam withdraws all its aggressor troops from Cambodia. The Cambodian people cannot determine their own destiny without outside interference through universal, free, direct, and secret elections under UN supervision unless the Vietnamese withdraw all their troops from Cambodia.

Thus, the entire Cambodian people, all Cambodian patriotic resistance forces, and the CGDK are determined to continue to strengthen the great national union and to fight the Vietnamese enemy aggressors and race exterminators more vigorously until they agree to unconditionally withdraw all their aggressor troops from

Cambodia. The Vietnamese cannot be forced to withdraw all their aggressor troops from Cambodia in accordance with the UN resolutions unless the Cambodian people jointly fight the aggressors more vigorously on the battlefield and the international community joins hands to pressure them in all fields until they encounter so many difficulties that they cannot bear them any longer.

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CSO: 4212/58

COALITION GOVERNMENT OF DEMOCRATIC KAMPUCHEA

VOK CHARGES CHAN SI KILLED IN SOVIET UNION

BK171236 (Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer in Cambodian 0500 GMT 17 Feb 86

["Political Commentary": "The Mystery of Chan Si's Death"]

[Text] Recently, various Western papers have reported that the Cambodian people more and more believe that Chan Si, former prime minister of the puppet Heng Samrin regime, was murdered because he opposed the Vietnamese. Chan Si died more than a year ago in Moscow, USSR, on 26 December 1984. The following day, VOK broadcast his death to the Cambodian people. However, at that time, our broadcast was on medium wave; not every Cambodian heard the news. Days later, VOK was very surprised that the puppet Heng Samrin regime's radio denied that Chan Si was dead. Five days later, on 1 January 1985, the puppet radio broadcast Chan Si's death to the Cambodian people. However, it did not say that Chan Si had died in Moscow. It was certain that the puppet regime did not dare admit that Chan Si had died during his stay in Moscow. Therefore, we should consider the reason for the puppet regime's delaying the announcement of his death. It was because Vietnam ordered a delay until Chan Si's body could be returned to Cambodia. Vietnam needed time to fabricate an appropriate excuse for his death, because Chan Si had secretly planned to oppose Vietnam. Vietnam had to decide whether to keep this matter secret or make it public and punish Chan Si as a traitor. Vietnam vacillated but finally decided to cover up Chan Si's death by ordering the Phnom Penh puppet radio to broadcast his death specifying that Chan Si had died of heart disease. Could Chan Si have died of heart disease as the Heng Samrin puppet radio claimed?

A Cambodian, who used to work for the Heng Samrin regime and who has now joined the CGDK forces, told us that Chan Si was in good health before he left for the GDR to sign an economic treaty between the two countries. At that time, Chan Si did not expect to have to go to Moscow. However, he was ordered to continue his trip from the GDR to Moscow. Chan Si was still in good health then, yet only a few days later we heard that Chan Si had died. Can we believe that Chan Si died of a heart attack?

Another Cambodian who escaped from Phnom Penh told us what he saw at Pochentong Airport when the coffin containing Chan Si's body arrived from the Soviet Union. The coffin was tightly sealed. No one was allowed to see the corpse. The coffin was immediately taken to the funeral. No one was allowed to see the deceased's face. If, then, Chan Si was killed in the Soviet Union, what was the reason?

VOK sources say that it was because Chan Si opposed some Vietnamese plans regarding the Russians, in particular an agreement between Vietnam and the Soviet Union under which Cambodia's rubber production was to be sent to the Soviet Union to pay for some Vietnamese military expenses in Cambodia. Cambodia's rubber production is valuable, even at today's prices. The Soviets usually buy all this production. [sentence as heard] However, as long as Chan Si lived, he constituted an obstacle to the Soviets. Chan Si also opposed Vietnam's order to fell trees in Kompong Som, Kratie, Ratanakiri, and Mondolkiri and take them to Vietnam. Finally, Chan Si opposed Vietnam's plan to force Cambodians to clear forests and build various defensive structures along the Cambodian-Thai border to prevent CGDK forces from infiltrating to attack inside the country.

If our sources' reports are true, despite Chan Si's respect for Vietnam, deep in his heart he was a true Cambodian who dared oppose Vietnam's orders--without considering the danger to himself--to defend the Cambodian people's interests. We clearly hope that among high-ranking officials of the puppet Heng Samrin regime there are many others like Chan Si willing to risk danger for their nationalist ideals and daring to oppose the Vietnamese secretly to defend the Cambodian people's lives, particularly those Chan Si tried his utmost to defend--the people who are forced every week by the Vietnamese to die from disease and from stepping on mines during forced labor under various programs along the border to hinder the infiltration of CGDK forces into the country. So far, this Vietnamese policy of sealing off the border has failed.

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COALITION GOVERNMENT OF DEMOCRATIC KAMPUCHEA

VONADK SAYS SRV FAILS TO DIVIDE CAMBODIANS

BK150833 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in
Cambodian 2315 GMT 14 Feb 86

[Station commentary: "Hanoi Authorities' Policy of Pitting Cambodian Against
Cambodian Has Failed Totally"]

[Text] Everyone knows that since 1981 the Vietnamese aggressors have made every effort to build a powerful army that is highly efficient in combat so as to help relieve the burden of their war of aggression against Cambodia. They have opened many military training schools in Cambodia with Vietnamese military officers as instructors. At these military training schools, the Vietnamese instructors indoctrinate Cambodian youths with pro-Vietnamese ideals and teach them all kinds of combat tactics. The intelligent Cambodian youths are sent to further their studies in warfare tactics at the army war colleges in Hanoi or Moscow so that these youths can later be installed as military officers in the Cambodian army to serve Vietnam's war of aggression in Cambodia. At the same time, the Vietnamese aggressors recruited and armed our Cambodian youths and people, ranging in age from 15 to 45, to serve in the Cambodian army with the evil aim of making these forces a tool for suppressing and dispersing the Cambodian people's national liberation struggle.

However, the Le Duan clique's plan to pit Cambodians against their fellow Cambodians has failed successively. Cambodian soldiers forcibly armed by the Vietnamese aggressors have refused to serve as a tool for the Vietnamese war of aggression because they have seen the evil face of the aggressors and are well aware of the true nature of the Vietnamese clique's genocidal, expansionist, and annexationist acts against the Cambodian race. No matter what regulations and martial law the Vietnamese aggressors have resorted to, the Cambodian soldiers have sought every way to avoid being used as cannon fodder for the Vietnamese aggressors. Whenever they have been forced by the Vietnamese military commanders to cooperate with the Vietnamese soldiers in various operations, the Cambodian soldiers have always tried to flee, even while engaged in fierce combat.

This is one cause for the heavy loss in manpower suffered by the Vietnamese aggressors. Since the Cambodian soldiers have refused to fight against their fellow Cambodians, the Vietnamese aggressors have been compelled to fight by themselves. This is why the Vietnamese aggressors have kept sending fresh troops to Cambodia to replenish their losses of manpower. Since they have

failed to make the Cambodian soldiers fight on the battlefield, the aggressors have decided to use the Cambodian soldiers in other ways, such as sending them to guard camps, positions, [words indistinct], bridges, and transport routes, and making them build military installations, such as barracks, trenches, and positions.

However, the Vietnamese aggressors have also failed in this attempt to use the Cambodian soldiers as subsidiary forces because these Cambodian soldiers have made every effort to avoid serving the Vietnamese. They have done this by deserting their ranks individually and in large and small groups, and deserting their guard posts, thus enabling the DK National Army to attack and destroy bridges, railroad tracks, and transport routes. Moreover, some Cambodian soldiers have assisted our national army by reporting on the movements of Vietnamese forces, guiding the National Army in attacks against Vietnamese positions, or fleeing to join our national army to increase our forces in attacking the aggressors. The mutinies against the Vietnamese aggressors at (Bak Sra), Ta Khieu, and Takeo town constituted clear proof of the total failure of the Le Duan clique's policy of pitting Cambodian against fellow Cambodian. Although the Vietnamese aggressor troops are tightly controlling the Cambodian army system, this war machine is shaking vigorously.

Another new phenomenon that emerged in the middle of this dry season is that the Vietnamese aggressors could not rely on using Cambodian soldiers as subsidiary forces for the rear anymore. Chaos, which has occurred successively in the ranks of the Cambodian army, has made the Vietnamese aggressors lose trust in the Cambodian soldiers that they themselves have installed. The recent withdrawal of Cambodian soldiers from the areas around Phnom Penh and their replacement with 13,000 Vietnamese troops clearly proves this distrust.

With Cambodian soldiers refusing to serve the Vietnamese, the burden of the war of aggression against Cambodia has fallen to the Vietnamese troops because the Vietnamese aggressors must depend totally on their own forces both in the front and the rear. To cope with situation, the Vietnamese Le Duan clique is compelled to increase the Vietnamese forces in Cambodia.

The failure of this policy of pitting Cambodians against their fellow Cambodians have caused greater losses to the Le Duan clique and plunged it more deeply into the quagmire in the battlefield of aggression against Cambodia.

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COALITION GOVERNMENT OF DEMOCRATIC KAMPUCHEA

VOK REPORTS SRV, HENG SAMRIN TROOP MOVEMENTS

BK191326 (Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer in Cambodian 1100 GMT 19 Feb 86

[Text] The Voice of the Khmer has received various reports on Vietnamese positions and on the movements of Vietnamese and Heng Samrin soldiers in various regions of western Cambodia. These reports reveal that a Vietnamese base located in Ratanamodol District has its command post defended by the 593d Regiment in Ta Lok village, itself defended by three battalions deployed at various positions. The 1st Battalion, made up of about 300 soldiers, is positioned on Hill 147 and armed with 120-mm and 105-mm artillery pieces, 82-mm mortars, and 75-mm recoilless guns. The 2d Battalion, made up of 250 Vietnamese soldiers, is deployed in Kamrieng Commune and armed with 1 120-mm gun and 2 82-mm mortars. The 3d Battalion, made up of 300 Vietnamese soldiers, is located on Hill 142 and armed with 1 120-mm gun and 2 82-mm mortars.

On 4 February, a number of Vietnamese soldiers from the 9th Division were sent on six trucks from Sisophon District to Sala Kraham Village where they traveled by foot toward Soeng Village, northwest of Sisophon District, Battambang Province.

On 7 February, four truckloads of Vietnamese soldiers from the 9th Division were sent from Sisophon District to Dong Aranh Village, Poipet District, Battambang Province.

On 13 February, some 80 Vietnamese soldiers from the 9th Division traveled by foot from Soeng Village to Preav Village, Poipet District.

There was also a report on the activities of the Heng Samrin soldiers in Oddar Meanchey Province. On 3 February, a number of Heng Samrin soldiers from the 3d Division were practicing firing six 37-mm anti-aircraft guns in Samraong District in preparation for their deployment in Ph'ong village, north of Samraong.

On 8 February, about 100 Heng Samrin soldiers conscripted inhabitants in Samraong District to transport food by ox carts to Kouk Mon village, Samraong District, Oddar Meanchey Province.

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11 March 1986

COALITION GOVERNMENT OF DEMOCRATIC KAMPUCHEA

VODK ON DETERMINATION TO STRUGGLE AGAINST SRV

BK191226 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT
18 Feb 86

[Station commentary: "The Whole Cambodian Nation and People and the Democratic Kampuchean National Army and Guerrillas Throughout the Country Consider Unity of Nationalist Forces as Sacred Both During the Current Struggle Against the Vietnamese Enemy Aggressors and in the Future"]

[Text] Cambodia is a small country and has a small population. Cambodia has no need to wage war against anybody. Cambodia only needs peace to build the country and improve its people's living standards. However, the Hanoi Vietnamese enemy, who has ambitions of annexing and exterminating the Cambodian nation and race to swallow all of Cambodia, has not left Cambodia in peace. The Hanoi Vietnamese have sent hundreds of thousands troops with tanks and all kinds of modern weaponry to invade and occupy Cambodia and barbarously and savagely massacre innocent Cambodian people.

According to their plans, the Hanoi Vietnamese tried to annex Cambodia quickly to set up an Indochinese federation and use this as a stepping stone toward committing further aggression in Southeast Asia. However, for the past 7 years, due to the unity of the whole Cambodian nation and people, the Democratic Kampuchean National Army and guerrillas, and all Cambodian nationalist forces under CGDK leadership fighting the Vietnamese aggressors courageously and resolutely, the latter have not been able to exterminate the Cambodian race and annex Cambodia as planned. On the contrary, they have been put in a situation in which their aggressor forces are being defeated, at an impasse, and facing great difficulties on the battlefield in Cambodia. They are quickly heading downhill toward final defeat.

During the past more than 7 years, particularly after 1982 when we set up the CGDK, the Cambodian nation and people, the Democratic Kampuchean National Army, and all Cambodian nationalist forces have been holding aloft the banner of great national unity and have cooperated in the struggle against the Vietnamese enemy aggressors with increasingly good results. Through our experiences we see that because of this unity in the struggle against the Vietnamese enemy aggressors we have been able to safeguard the Cambodian nation and race thus far. And we need to continue to unite in order to safeguard our nation and race indefinitely. The Vietnamese enemy aggressors and their accomplices

also realize that as long as the Cambodian nation and people, the Democratic Kampuchean National Army, all Cambodian resistance forces, and the CGDK continue to unite and fight courageously and vigorously, the Vietnamese will not be able to annex Cambodia.

This is why during the past more than 7 years, the Vietnamese enemy aggressors and their accomplices have been trying every deceitful, tricky, and dirty maneuver to split and destroy this national unity. The Vietnamese have used every means. They have used military maneuvers, instigated conflicts on the battlefield by disguising as this or that party to attack another party, fabricated stories blaming this or that person, flattering this person and putting down that person, or appealing to this or that party to hold talks or cooperate with Vietnamese lackeys in Phnom Penh, and so on. However, the whole Cambodian nation and people, well aware of the Vietnamese tricky nature, have not been taken in by these Vietnamese maneuvers.

This dry season, when these Vietnamese maneuvers have been increasing, the Cambodian people, the Democratic Kampuchean National Army, all Cambodian nationalist resistance forces, and the CGDK have united to successively thwart these Vietnamese maneuvers and have improved unity, have a better understanding of one another, and are increasing their cooperation to fight more vigorously against the Vietnamese. This has increasingly advanced our struggle. The whole Cambodian nation and people clearly realize that in a geographical position in which Cambodia is constantly close to the Vietnamese enemy's grasp and in which the Vietnamese have ambitions of annexing Cambodia and a strategy to commit aggression in the region, we need broad national unity to be strong enough to defend and build the country. Vietnam is trying to annex Cambodia now and will continue to do so in the future. Therefore, the issue of safeguarding the Cambodian nation and race is a permanent one for every Cambodian. We thus need to have broad unity now and later after the Vietnamese are forced to withdraw from Cambodia. Only when we have this broad unity can we defend our country and race now and build the country into an independent, neutral, and nonaligned one in the future.

Because they have clearly realized this, the whole Cambodian nation and people and the Democratic Kampuchean National Army and guerrillas consider as sacred this great national unity in the struggle against the Vietnamese. We will not do anything detrimental to this great national unity. We will do everything to increase the force fighting the Vietnamese enemy aggressors. The Cambodian nation and people and the Democratic Kampuchean National Army and guerrillas are determined to hold aloft the banner of great national unity with all Cambodian nationalist resistance forces around the CGDK and continue to fight more vigorously against the Vietnamese enemy aggressors until they face even more difficulties and are forced to resolve the Cambodian issue politically by withdrawing all their aggressor forces from Cambodia immediately and unconditionally as prescribed by resolutions of the past seven UN General Assembly sessions.

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COALITION GOVERNMENT OF DEMOCRATIC KAMPUCHEA

CAMBODIAN RESISTANCE URGES HEALING OF LEADERSHIP RIFT

BK140153 Bangkok THE NATION in English 14 Feb 86 p 3

[Article by Sompong Kittinaradon]

[Text] Field commanders of a non-communist Khmer resistance force, apparently getting impatient with a two-month stalemate in the top echelon, have urged their divided leaders to heal the rift as soon as possible.

The commanders, who formed a 10-man committee to direct the armed struggle of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front (KPNLF) on its own in their meeting on 31 January, recently proposed to send two representatives to mediate the dispute between KPNLF President Son Sann and Commander-in-Chief Gen Sak Lutsakhan.

Committee chairman Gen Dien Del sent two messages to both Son Sann and Sak this month to underscore their desire to see an early solution to the wrangle.

In his first letter, dated 5 February, to both Son Sann and Sak, Dien Del proposed that the two representatives, Nong Chan base commander Chea Chhut and Pan Thai, base commander of Bak Ronoah, meet the two leaders at any place in Bangkok to discuss a settlement to the internal conflict on 10 February.

Dien Del said the two military officers were given mandate to help the two leaders solve the two-month-old rift.

Dien Del also spelled out the military grouping's three-point positions: Son Sann remains president of the KPNLF, Sak remains commander-in-chief, and the formation of an ad hoc committee to work out a supreme organization to lead the Front.

However, the proposed meeting did not come about.

Instead General Sak met Son Sann and his Executive Committee, (Exco) on 9 February, but both sides failed to agree upon a common groundwork for the settlement of the dispute.

The two top leaders had earlier met on 2 February to discuss the issue.

Sak reportedly agreed to the military committee's three-point proposal and relayed it to the other side during the 9 February meeting. Son Sann and his followers, however, counter-proposed that the legislations which form the basis for the creation of Exco remain unchanged until a "congress" is held to change or modify the legislations. The Exco chaired by Son Sann also resolved that the High Military Command led by Gen Dien Del no longer exist. The 10-man committee, called the Provisional Committee in the Field of the KPNLF, decided in its meeting on 31 January that the high command be placed under the committee.

Dissident members had formed the so-called Provisional Central Committee for the Salvation of the KPNLF (PCCS) to replace the Exco when they staged a "coup" on 17 December, last year.

As a result of the deadlock, Son Sann Wednesday issued "the last appeal" to the dissident members asking them to return to the fold, according to a statement released by the loyalist faction. Informed sources told THE NATION that Son Sann sent the "last appeal" to Sak in writing. In his letter, he said he had made up his mind on the following points:

--Sak would be welcome back to the fold if he behaves himself by "devoting yourself entirely to the noble task of liberating Kampuchea" and no longer "hurting the KPNLF unity, reviving its humiliation and abuse your powers."

--Sak's followers should go for the good of the KPNLF and for his own sake if "they are patriotic."

--Son Sann insists that Sak is commander-in-chief because of his "delegation of authority to command the military affairs."

--The leadership must retake control over the armed forces as soon as possible.

--The chief-of-staff and his staff officers are named by the president.

--The president and the Exco will take charge of the civilian, political, diplomatic and financial affairs.

--The administration over Khmer civilians in "liberated zones" must be placed under Exco's jurisdiction.

At the same time, Dien Del sent the second message to both Sak and Son Sann Wednesday reaffirming the committee's positions outlined in the first message. Dien Del said he sent the message in his capacities as chief of the High Military Command and chairman of the Provisional Committee in the Field of the KPNLF.

In his second message, he urged that the conflict at the top echelon be settled as soon as possible.

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COALITION GOVERNMENT OF DEMOCRATIC KAMPUCHEA

ROUNDUP OF VONADK BATTLE REPORTS 7-13 FEBRUARY

BK140939 [Editorial Report] (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea [VONADK] in Cambodian broadcast the following battle reports during the reporting period 7-13 February:

VONADK at 2315 GMT on 7 February reports that DK forces dismantled Vietnamese commune administrations at Roka Kaong and Peam Chikang communes in Kang Meas District along the Mekong River on 2 February, at Krakor commune in Konpong Siem District of Kompong Cham Province on 2 February, at Kompong Svay commune in Kompong Thom Province on 3 February, and at Prey Svay commune in Muong District on 1 February, liberating 17 villages in these communes; disrupted Vietnamese administrative networks in 2 villages of Tuk Meas District on the southwestern region battlefield on 1 February; ambushed a Vietnamese jeep on Route 19 on the Stung Treng battlefield on 25 January, killing a Vietnamese division commander, and a Vietnamese motorboat on the Koh Kong Leu battlefield on 27 January; and conducted various other actions on the Sisophon, north Sisophon, western Leach, Kompong Cham, Pailin, Koh Kong Leu, northwest Phnom Penh, Tonle Sap, Ratankiri, Kompong Thom, and southwest region battlefields between 18 January and 4 February, killing and wounding 224 Vietnamese soldiers; destroying 24 guns, 10 commune office buildings, 4 military training schools, 4 barracks, 1 rice storehouse, 1 rice milling machine, 1 power generator, 1 bridge, 3 motorboats, and some ammunition and materiel; seizing 13 guns, 117 mines, 2 boats, and some ammunition and war materiel; and liberating 9 villages on the Kompong Cham battlefield, 4 villages on the Kompong Thom battlefield, and 4 other villages on the Moung battlefield.

According to VONADK at 2315 GMT on 8 February, DK forces dismantled Vietnamese administrative apparatuses in Chhuk commune of Puok District on the Siem Reap battlefield on 3 February, in Sraeung commune of Santuk District in Kompong Thom on 25 January, liberating 3 villages, and in Sandek commune of Cheung Prey District, Kompong Cham, on 30 January; attacked a Vietnamese battalion in Kompong Svay District, Kompong Thom, on 2 February, ambushed Vietnamese troops at Daeum Snuol on the south Sisophon battlefield on 3 February, a Vietnamese platoon moving out of Anlung Kop on the Muong battlefield on 3 February, and a Vietnamese truck on the Leach battlefield on 3 February; and conducted other actions between 5 January and 4 February, killing and wounding 178 Vietnamese soldiers; destroying 41 assorted guns, 1 truck, 1 office building, 1 clothing warehouse, 1 paddy storehouse, 14 barracks, 12 barrels of fuel oil, and some ammunition and war materiel; seizing 7 guns and some ammunition and materiel; and liberating 3 villages on the Kompong Thom battlefield.

The clandestine radio at 2315 GMT on 9 February reports DK forces cut 12 sections of railroad track near Kbal Say in MOUNG on 31 January; attacked a Vietnamese battalion position in Sot Nikom District on the Siem Reap battlefield on 25 February, and a company position in Srei Snam District, Siem Reap, on 5 February; and conducted various other actions against Vietnamese soldiers in Pailin, Kompong Som, Siem Reap, East Phnom Penh, southwestern, south Sisophon, and north Battambang regions between 28 January and 5 February, killing and wounding 304 Vietnamese soldiers; destroying 31 guns, 240 meters of railroad track, 2 trucks, 14 barracks, and some ammunition and war materiel, and seizing 1 gun, 80 sets of military uniforms, 48 rucksacks, and some war materiel.

According to VONADK at 2315 GMT on 10 February, as a result of DK forces actions in Tonle Sap from 4 to 5 February, Kompong Cham on 5 February, MOUNG-Pursat on 4 and 5 February, Kratie 29 January, south Battambang on 6 February, Samlot from 1 to 3 February, west Battambang on 7 February, east Battambang on 5 February, south Sisophon on 4 February, Sisophon on 6 February, and Siem Reap on 6 and 7 February, 117 Vietnamese soldiers were killed, 133 wounded and 4 captured alive; 530 meters of railroad tracks, 23 assorted weapons, 4 commune office buildings, 2 trucks, 2 rice huskers, 2 C-25 field radio sets, 1 12-meter-long bridge, 3 barracks, and some war materiel were destroyed; 9 guns and some ammunition and war materiel were seized; and 3 villages in Kompong Cham and 3 others in MOUNG-Pursat were liberated.

VONADK at 2315 GMT on 11 February reports DK forces killed 175 Vietnamese, including 2 regiment commanders, 2 battalion commanders, 25 Vietnamese experts, and 10 Lao experts, and wounded 185 others; destroyed 50 meters of railroad track, 487 assorted guns, 3 commune office buildings, 22 trucks, 4 tractors, 50 bicycles, 1 large power generator and 5 smaller ones, 3 walkie-talkies, 10 radio receivers, 6 telephones, 2 rice depots, 8 ammo depots, 150 barrels of fuel oil, 17 Vietnamese brick houses, 3 military training school buildings, 100 barracks, and a large quantity of war materiel were destroyed; 79 assorted guns along with some ammunition and other materiel were seized; 3 villages in the MOUNG-Pursat area and 5 others in Kompong Thom were liberated; and 550 Cambodian soldiers were set free from Vietnamese service and allowed to go home in various attacks on the MOUNG-Pursat, Kompong Thom, Kompong Cham, Kompong Chhnang, and Samlot battlefields between 22 January and 6 February and the 8 February attack on the Vietnamese national military training center west of Kompong Speu town.

The clandestine radio reports at 2315 GMT on 12 February: DK forces dismantled Vietnamese administrative apparatuses in Ta Pon and Thippadei communes in Battambang on 7 February and in Tuol Khpos commune in Prey Chhor District, Kompong Cham, on 5 February; ambushed 2 Vietnamese trucks on the Kompong Cham battlefield, a Vietnamese company on the Kompong Thom battlefield on February [as printed], and another company on the Kompong Cham battlefield on 8 February; and conducted many other actions against the Vietnamese between 29 January and 9 February, killing and wounding 238 enemy soldiers; destroying 15 guns, 1 commune office building, 2 trucks, 20,000 liters of gasoline, 4 barracks, and some war materiel; seizing 3 guns and some war materiel; and liberating 6 villages on the Battambang battlefield.

According to VONADK at 2315 GMT on 13 February, DK forces attacked Ta Kream commune and liberated 3 villages in Phnum Sampeou District on the Pailing battlefield on 9 February; dismantled Vietnamese administrations at Yi Ang commune in Thpong District on 6 February, at Tang Kroch commune in Samroang Tong District on 8 February, liberating 2 villages, at Meanchey commune in Chhuk District on 9 February, at Bat Trang commune in Sisophon District on 9 February, liberating 2 other villages, at Anhchanh commune in Sisophon District on 7 February, and at various villages in Kompong Siem District on 8 February; ambushed a Vietnamese troop truck moving from Sala Visai to Rumlich on the Kompong battlefield on 5 February; ambushed a Vietnamese regiment in Phnum Srok District on the north Sisophon battlefield on 3 February; and conducted various other actions in Sisophon, north Sisophon, Kompong Thom, Kratie, and north Battambang, killing and wounding 161 Vietnamese soldiers; destroying 24 assorted weapons, 1 truck, 7 commune office buildings, 1 rice depot, 1 ammunition depot, 2 bridges, 2 guard posts, 7 barracks, and some ammunition and war materiel; seizing 8 guns and some ammunition and materiel; and liberating 3 villages on the Pailin battlefield, 2 on the northwestern Phnom Penh battlefield, and 2 others on the Sisophon battlefield.

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VONADK REPORTS BATTAMBANG AIRFIELD ATTACKED 10 FEBRUARY

BK142358 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea
in Cambodian 2315 GMT 14 Feb 86

[Report from various battlefields]

[Excerpt] Battambang battlefield: On the night of 10 February, we attacked the Battambang airfield for the second time. We killed 8 and wounded 12 Vietnamese enemy soldiers; destroyed a radar, 2 82-mm mortars, a 12.7-mm machinegun, 3 machineguns, 3 B-41's, 5 AK's, a C-25 radio, a command post, a warehouse measuring 50 by 15 meters, 20 barracks, and some bar materiel.

West Battambang battlefield: On the night of 9 February, our national army attacked a Vietnamese enemy tank regiment position in Boeng Reang along Route 10, 5 km from Battambang town. We killed 8 and wounded 10 Vietnamese enemy soldiers; destroyed 3 T-54 tanks, 3 DK-85 guns, 3 military warehouses, 2 barracks, and some war materiel; seized some war materiel; and liberated 4 villages: Boeng Reang, Kouk Ponley Ti Muoy, Kouk Ponley Ti Pi, and Chai Kda.

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COALITION GOVERNMENT OF DEMOCRATIC KAMPUCHEA

107 SRV SOLDIERS REPORTED KILLED IN 14 FEB ATTACK

BK180306 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in
Cambodian 2315 GMT 17 Feb 86

[Battle report from various battlefields]

[Excerpt] At 0500 on 14 February, our special detachment attacked a
Vietnamese regimental command post and three company positions at (Daeum Phlu)
on Stoeng Me Toek, Koh Kong Leu battlefield.

After 30 minutes of fighting, we completely destroyed these positions. We
killed 89 Vietnamese enemy soldiers and wounded 66 others. We destroyed
84 AK's, 16 B-40's, 1 82-mm mortar, 3 60-mm mortars, 1 12.7 machinegun,
12 AR-15's, 4 M-30's, 65 military barracks, 2 2-watt telegram machines,
3 telephone sets, 2 C-25 radios, 1 ammunition depot, 1 rice storehouse con-
taining 360 sacks of rice, and a quantity of military materiel. We seized
5 AK's, 3 AR-15's, 250 hand grenades, 65 rucksacks, and some war materiel.

The next morning, Vietnamese enemy soldiers posted at nearby positions came
to help their colleagues. They stepped in our mines and were also ambushed.
We killed 18 of them and wounded 5 others. We also destroyed a truck and a
quantity of war materiel.

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COALITION GOVERNMENT OF DEMOCRATIC KAMPUCHEA

VOK REPORTS ANS, KPNLA MILITARY OPERATIONS

BK191236 (Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer in Cambodian 1100 GMT 19 Feb 86

[Text] Sources from the Sihanoukist National Army [ANS] reported that on 18 February, a group of ANS fighters from the 11th Regiment, 1st Division, who were conducting a military operation inside Cambodia clashed with 10 Vietnamese soldiers and 20 Heng Samrin soldiers at Krasang Village, Bos Lbov Commune, Samraong District, Oddar Meanchey Province. The 15-minute battle which started at 1515 and lasted until 1530 resulted in one Vietnamese soldier killed and several others wounded. Two Heng Samrin soldiers laid down their arms and defected to the ANS side.

On 13 February, Vietnamese soldiers of the 75th Division fired 11 mortar shells from their base northwest of Khleng Poar Hill in Sisophon District to harass a position of the Khmer People's National Liberation Army, without causing any damage.

On 6 February, a platoon of CGDK soldiers ambushed two Vietnamese boats transporting food on Mongkolborei River, Battambang Province, killing six Vietnamese soldiers, capturing three others, and destroying the boats.

On 13 February, a group of CGDK soldiers attacked Vietnamese troops northwest of Hill 395, 1 km from Phnum Kravanh District, Pursat Province. The clash lasted for 45 minutes, but no casualties report was available.

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COALITION GOVERNMENT OF DEMOCRATIC KAMPUCHEA

SIHANOUK'S RANNARIT MESSAGE TO HENG SAMRIN SOLDIERS

BK201010 (Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer in Cambodian 0500 GMT 20 Feb 86

[14 February "message" from Prince Norodom Rannarit, Samdech Norodom Sihanouk's personal representative to Cambodia and Asia and supreme commander of the Sihanoukist National Army, "to Heng Samrin soldiers throughout Cambodia"--recorded]

[Text] Dear patriotic fighters living under the Heng Samrin regime: In my capacity as the royal son and royal representative of August Samdech Norodom Sihanouk and supreme commander of the Sihanoukist National Army [ANS], I am greatly honored to express unlimited admiration at the valor and resoluteness of all combatants who have fought back against the Vietnamese aggressors, the sworn enemy of all Cambodians. For example, there are the feats of the brothers in the ranks of the Heng Samrin army who attacked the Vietnamese enemy aggressors in Pursat and Siem Reap provinces last December, causing extensive damage to the Vietnamese and even seizing two tanks from them. In Koh Kong Province last January, patriotic fighters under the Heng Samrin regime mutinied against the Vietnamese troops, causing serious losses to them. In Takeo this month, patriotic forces in the Heng Samrin regime also launched heavy attacks against the Vietnamese aggressor troops in the region. Recently, the 179th Regiment of the Heng Samrin army attacked a Vietnamese division in the vicinity of Khleng Poar Hill, Thmar Puok District, Battambang Province, and destroyed many Vietnamese materiel and ammunition depots. Moreover, the Heng Samrin forces in Oddar Meanchey, Siem Reap, and Battambang provinces have provided material support for the ANS fighters and, on many occasions, closely cooperated with them.

These correct attitudes and activities have been highly approved of and praised by Samdech Euv [the prince father, an affectionate appellation given to Sihanouk], whom we have always venerated and who used to bestow upon Cambodia and the Cambodian people happiness, national independence, and territorial integrity. He has conveyed through me, his royal representative, the urging that all of you should strive to intensify military activities against these Vietnamese aggressors. You see with your own eyes how these Vietnamese oppress and violate the rights of the Cambodian people, the masters of the country, and how they chase our Cambodian people out of their homes and lands which they then hand over to their fellow Vietnamese nationals.

The ANS together with other resistance forces has conducted armed activities and attacks against the Vietnamese everywhere, driving these Vietnamese aggressors into stalemate and panic everywhere. At the same time, many patriotic forces living under the Heng Samrin regime have volunteered to join our nationalist resistance forces. The union of all patriotic forces has plunged the Vietnamese aggressors, sworn enemy of the Khmer, into a more serious predicament. For this reason, the Vietnamese, helter-skelter and panic-stricken, are seeking to settle the Cambodian problem politically.

The brothers are requested to please constantly step up your national liberation activities. Please, do not believe the odious propaganda of the Vietnamese. On the contrary, all patriotic Cambodian forces are requested to further intensify military activities and attacks against their positions. If all patriots have the kindness of responding to my appeal, please firmly unite and join your forces to attack the Vietnamese aggressors everywhere. Only then will all of us Khmer patriots be able to seize victory once and for all.

Long live the ANS! Long live all Cambodian resistance forces! Down with the armed forces of the Vietnamese aggressors!

Made in the liberated zone, 14 February 1986

/8309

CSO: 4212/58

COALITION GOVERNMENT OF DEMOCRATIC KAMPUCHEA

SIHANOUK THANKS DK FOR MESSAGE OF SUPPORT

BK160219 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT
15 Feb 86

[Text] After receiving a 12 February statement by the Democratic Kampuchean side clearly and firmly confirming its stand on the present and future role of Samdech Norodom Sihanouk and his FUNCINPEC, on the same day--12 February--Democratic Kampuchean President Samdech Norodom Sihanouk sent a message of thanks to His Excellency Khieu Samphan, vice president of Democratic Kampuchea and president of the Democratic Kampuchean side; His Excellency Son Sen, vice president of the Democratic Kampuchean side and supreme commander of the Democratic Kampuchean National Army; and the whole Democratic Kampuchean side. The following is text of this message:

To Excellencies Khieu Samphan and Son Sen and the Democratic Kampuchea side:

On behalf of the FUNCINPEC and in my own name, I would like to thank Your Excellencies and Democratic Kampuchea for the noble, patriotic message dated 12 February 1986.

I would like to affirm our fraternal unity in our sacred, joint struggle to liberate Cambodia from the claws of the Vietnamese aggressors and colonialists.

With highest regards.

[Signed] Norodom Sihanouk, president of Democratic Kampuchea and of the FUNCINPEC

Beijing, 12 February 1986

/8309

CSO: 4212/58

COALITION GOVERNMENT OF DEMOCRATIC KAMPUCHEA

BRIEFS

SIHANOUKISTS CLASH WITH SRV TROOPS--Military sources of our station report that on 6 February, 245 ANS [National Sihanoukist Army] combatants of the 3d Division clashed for 9 hours with two Vietnamese companies at O Prey Veng southwest of Khtum Village, Samraong District, Oddar Meanchey Province, killing 2 Vietnamese soldiers on the spot and wounding 8 others. ANS troops suffered one dead and four wounded. [Text] [(Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer in Cambodian 1100 GMT 16 Feb 86] /8309

9 VIETNAMESE KILLED IN BATTAMBANG--The FUNCINPEC news sources reported that the Sihanoukist army combatants killed nine Vietnamese soldiers in a recent attack against a Vietnamese position in Battambang Province. According to the report on 5 February a group of Sihanoukist army combatants attacked a Vietnamese position at Prek Sar in Battambang District of Battambang Province, killing nine Vietnamese soldiers and wounding nine others. The Sihanoukist army suffered one killed and three wounded. [Text] [(Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer in Cambodian 1300 GMT 15 Feb 86] /8309

CHAN YORAN AMBASSADOR TO BANGLADESH--To strengthen the bonds of friendship between Democratic Kampuchea and the People's Republic of Bangladesh, the CGDK has proposed naming His Excellency Chan Yoran as ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of Democratic Kampuchea accredited to the People's Republic of Bangladesh with normal residence in Beijing. The government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh has accepted this proposal of naming His Excellency Chan Youran as ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of Democratic Kampuchea to the People's Republic of Bangladesh with normal residence in Beijing, capital of the PRC. [Dated] Democratic Kampuchea, 15 February 1986 [Text] [(Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 14 Feb 86] /8309

CSO: 4212/58

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KAMPUCHEA

BRIEFS

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS TO TRUONG CHINH--Phnom Penh, 10 Feb (SPK)--Heng Samrin, president of the State Council of the People's Republic of Kampuchea, has sent warm greetings to Truong Chinh, president of the State Council of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, on his 79th birthday. In his message, President Heng Samrin stressed that as an eminent leader, President Truong Chinh has actively taken part in consolidating and developing friendship and militant solidarity and cooperation between the two countries and among the three Indochinese countries for the interests of the three peoples and for peace and stability in the region. President Heng Samrin wished Truong Chinh the best of health, longevity and greater success in his highly responsible tasks. [Text] [Phnom Penh SPK in English 1312 GMT 10 Feb 86] /9604

CHEA SIM RECEIVES OUTGOING GDR AMBASSADOR--Phnom Penh, 10 Feb (SPK)--Gunter Horn, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the German Democratic Republic, paid a farewell Sunday morning to Chea Sim, Politburo member of the Central Committee of the People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea, chairman of the National Assembly, on the termination of his mission in Kampuchea. On the occasion, chairman Chea Sim highly valued the diplomatic contributions of the GDR to the strengthening of friendship and solidarity between the two countries. [Text] [Phnom Penh SPK in English 1311 GMT 10 Feb 86] /9604

NEW INDIAN CHARGE D'AFFAIRES--Phnom Penh, 3 Feb (SPK)--A.K. Pandey, the new charge d'affaires E.P. of India to the People's Republic of Kampuchea, on Friday presented his credentials to Kong Korm, first deputy foreign minister of the PRK. A.K. Pandey, who arrived in Phnom Penh Thursday, replaces D.B. Malik. [Text] [Phnom Penh SPK in English 1204 GMT 3 Feb 86] /9604

AID FOR SRV STORM VICTIMS--Phnom Penh, 6 Feb (SPK)--The Ministry of Culture and Information of the People's Republic of Kampuchea has collected riels 19,169 (Kampuchea currency) for victims of the storm which struck the central Vietnamese province of Binh Tri Thien last October. The sum was handed over by Vice Minister Chey Sophea to the Vietnamese Embassy in Phnom Penh on 22 January. [Text] [Phnom Penh SPK in English 1136 GMT 6 Feb 86] /9604

11 March 1986

YOUTH GROUP'S RETURN--Phnom Penh, 3 Feb (SPK)--A delegation of the People's Revolutionary Youth Union of Kampuchea (PRYUK) has returned to Phnom Penh after attending a regional meeting of students from Asia and the Pacific in Pyongyang, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, from 14-16 January. The delegation, led by Im Suosdei, vice president of the Association of Revolutionary Youth of Kampuchea (ARYK) was among the 35 delegations attending the meeting. [Excerpt] [Phnom Penh SPK in English 1210 GMT 3 Feb 86] /9604

RETURNEES IN KOMPONG THOM--Phnom Penh, Feb (SPK)--In 1985, 871 misguided people broke with the enemy and reported themselves to the revolutionary authorities in Kompong Thom Province, 150 km north of Phnom Penh. Of the returnees, who brought along 263 guns, 762 were Polpotists and 109 Sereikas. Twenty-four were company officers. Kompong Thom was awarded the "Fatherland Defence Order," Second Class, during the year-end national conference on political proselytizing in 1985. [Text] [Phnom Penh SPK in English 1114 GMT 1 Feb 86] /9604

CSO: 4200/708

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE, AND AID

NHAN DAN COMMENTS ON REAGAN'S GRENADA VISIT

OW240923 Hanoi VNA in English 0713 GMT 24 Feb 86

[Text] Hanoi, 24 Feb (VNA)--NHAN DAN in a commentary today says that U.S. President Reagan went to Grenada in an attempt to make black white and erase the stain of his administration.

The paper says that Reagan also slandered Cuba and Nicaragua to get his administration out of its passive position and its failure in Central America and the Caribbean.

The paper goes on:

"The world people clearly know where lies the real threat to peace, independence and freedom of nations in Latin America, the Caribbean and the whole of our planet. It comes from no one else but the reactionary forces headed by the United States. While continuing to provoke hot beds of tension in one region or another, they are plunging headlong in the nuclear arms race, militarizing the outer space in an attempt to push mankind to the brink of a nuclear holocaust."

"To invent an imaginary threat from anyone else as an excuse for its schemes and acts of intervention and aggression in many areas of the world has become a customary practice of Washington," the paper says.

/9274

CSO: 4200/726

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE, AND AID

MONGOLIAN RADIO CONDEMNS PRC'S POLICY TOWARD SRV

OW220757 Hanoi VNA in English 0705 GMT 22 Feb 86

[Text] Hanoi, 22 Feb (VNA)--The Mongolian Radio on 17 February broadcast a commentary strongly condemning Beijing's hostile policy toward Vietnam.

It said: "Seven years have elapsed since the failure of their aggression against Vietnam in February 1979, the Beijing authorities have unceasingly pursued a hostile policy toward Vietnam. Since mid-1984 they have stepped up a land-grabbing war against Vietnam, on their part, the Vietnamese people have spared no efforts to restore the traditional friendship with the Chinese people, proposing negotiations aimed at settling issues related to bilateral relations and putting an end to all hostilities among the common border. [Quotation marks as received.]

The radio went on: "Beijing's hostile policy toward Vietnam runs counter to the Chinese people's interests, undermines the two countries' traditional friendship, and peace and security in the region and Asia as a whole."

"Dialogue, not confrontation, is the trend of our time," the radio observes. It says that by pursuing such a policy, the Chinese authorities will gain nothing but only incur ever more isolation at home and abroad.

/9274

CSO: 4200/726

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE, AND AID

CONTINUED PROGRESS AT NORWEGIAN-SPONSORED OIL TRAINING CENTER

Oslo AFTENPOSTEN in Norwegian 12 Feb 86 p 4

[Article by Torill Nordeng]

[Text] Vietnamese oil workers are to receive training from Norwegians. On Wednesday [12 February], three Norwegian training experts from ISOT/Norconsult International will be on their way to Ba Ria in southern Vietnam, where NORAD [Norwegian Agency for Development Aid] at the end of the 1970's set up a training center for oil workers. Since then the project has been functioning well, but now there is a need for both advanced training for instructors and replacement of equipment. ISOT won this contract from the United Nations after having overcome tough competition from international training firms.

ISOT, the International School of Technology, is owned by Norconsult [privately owned Norwegian consulting firm], and for the company the contract means an income of 11-12 million kroner.

"Two years ago we received a contract to evaluate how the NORAD project in Ba Ria had been going since the training center had been operating under its own power. It was demonstrated that it things had gone very well," said general director of ISOT, Willy Hafrom.

The project director at the training center, the Petroleum Workers Technical School [original in English] is Kristian Stoltenberg. First of all it will be he, to be gradually followed by seven others, who will organize the work involved in inaugurating the advanced training for instructors at the school.

/9599

CSO: 3639/77

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE, AND AID

BINH TRI THIEN STORM VICTIMS RECEIVE SOVIET AID

OW211618 Hanoi VNA in English 1503 GMT 21 Feb 86

[Text] Hanoi, 21 Feb (VNA)--The Vietnam AAPSO Committee received at a ceremony held here today a consignment of 25 tons of relief goods sent from the Soviet Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee, the Soviet-Vietnamese Friendship Society, the Soviet Women's Committee and Peace Fund, to the people in the storm-stricken province of Binh Tri Thien in central Vietnam.

The 250,000-ruble worth relief included clothes, blankets, mosquito nets, children's footwear, medicine and other medicaments.

Among those present at the handover ceremony were To Hoai, president of the Vietnam AAPSO Committee; Do Xuan Oanh, general secretary of the Vietnam Peace Committee; Do Huu Khoi, member of the presidium of the Vietnam Committee for Friendship and Solidarity With Other Peoples; Pham Ba Dien, vice-chairman of the People's Committee of Binh Tri Thien Province.

On the Soviet side were T. Grigor'yev, secretary of the Soviet Peace Fund; and Mrs Nina Krovina, dentist, and staff-members of the Soviet Embassy in Hanoi.

Speaking on the occasion, To Hoai and Pham Ba Dien expressed sincere thanks to the Soviet people for their valuable assistance to the people in Binh Tri Thien Province to help them overcome the consequences of natural calamities.

Another ceremony was also organized here today by the Vietnam Ministry of Transport and Communications to receive 10 locomotives as gift from the Soviet ministry and communications.

/9274

CSO: 4200/726

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE, AND AID

NGUYEN CO THACH GREETES ETHIOPIAN COUNTERPART

OW221804 Hanoi VNA in English 1621 GMT 22 Feb 86

[Text] Hanoi, 22 Feb (VNA)--Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach today extended his warmest greetings to his Ethiopian counterpart, Goshu Wolde, on the 10th anniversary of the establishment of the diplomatic relations between Vietnam and Ethiopia.

In his congratulatory message, Nguyen Co Thach expresses the joy of the Vietnamese Government and people at the fine development of the friendly relations and cooperation between Vietnam and Ethiopia over the past ten years and their belief that these ties will continue to consolidate and develop in the interests of the two peoples, for the sake of peace, national independence, democracy and social progress.

The Vietnamese foreign minister wished the Ethiopian people, under the leadership of the Ethiopian Workers' Party headed by President Mengistu Haile Mariam, still greater achievements.

/9274

CSO: 4200/726

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE, AND AID

NHAN DAN WELCOMES SOVIET SPACE ACHIEVEMENTS

OW220807 Hanoi VNA in English 0724 GMT 22 Feb 86

[All quotation marks as received]

[Text] Hanoi, 22 Feb (VNA)--The daily NHAN DAN today says that the Soviet space science has made a new and brilliant achievement in the use of outer space for peaceful purposes with the successful launching of the "Peace" orbital station just before the opening of the 27th Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union.

The paper says: "In the past 29 years since the successful launching of the first man-made earth satellite, the Soviet Union has consistently pursued a great program for the use of outer space for peaceful purposes in the interests of mankind. This has found a new and very significant illustration in the launching of the new orbital station bearing the name of "Peace."

It is under this great watchword that the Soviet Union has adopted a correct approach and made steady steps in the exploration of outer space. Thus, the paper adds, the Soviet Union is the first country to send up orbital complexes, is also taking the lead in long-term spatial flights and accordingly, has obtained many results in the service of man's well being on this planet.

/9274

CSO: 4200/726

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE, AND AID

WORKERS ACTIVITIES WELCOME CPSU CONGRESS

OW240921 Hanoi VNA in English 0709 GMT 24 Feb 86

[Text] Hanoi, 24 Feb (VNA)--More than 5,000 Vietnamese workers and Soviet experts on Saturday took part in a "model working day" at the construction sites of the Thang Long and Gian Khau Bridges and some other traffic projects in Hanoi to greet the coming 27th Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union.

In this connection, the chapters of the Vietnam Federation of Trade Unions and the Vietnam-USSR Friendship Association in Ha Son Binh Province, west of Hanoi, in cooperation with 154 of their grassroots units, recently organized a "Communist Labour Day" involving more than 50,000 people.

In the week ending 15 February, workers at the fuel company in the northern coal-mining Province of Quang Ninh organized a short emulation drive with sailors on Soviet ships to ensure quick clearance for the ships.

An emulation drive has been held at the Vietnam Union of Tea Factories which involves all processing centres and plantations of the union in successfully fulfilling its quota for the first quarter of 1986 to welcome the 27th CPSU Congress.

/9274

CSO: 4200/726

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE, AND AID

BRIEFS

MALAYSIAN KING RECEIVES ENVOY--Hanoi, 18 Feb (VNA)--Malaysia and Vietnam can act together to safeguard peace and stability in the region, said King of Malaysia Almutawakkil Alallah Sultan Iskandar al Haj [name as received] while receiving the new Vietnamese ambassador to Malaysia Tran Le Duc in Kuala Lumpur on 15 February. Malaysia and Vietnam, he said, are two neighbouring countries in Southeast Asia. We have many similarities which are a common ground on which to develop our friendly relations on the principle of peaceful coexistence and mutually beneficial cooperation. The Malaysian monarch took this occasion to convey his warm greetings and best wishes to President Truong Chinh, Chairman Pham Van Dong, and other leaders and the entire Vietnamese people. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 1520 GMT 18 Feb 86] /9604

GDR JUSTICE MINISTRY DELEGATION--Hanoi, 18 Feb (VNA)--A delegation of the Ministry of Justice of the German Democratic Republic led by Dr Herbert Kern, state secretary of the Justice Ministry, has paid a visit to Vietnam. The GDR delegation had working sessions with a delegation of the Vietnamese Ministry of Justice led by Vice Minister Phung Van Ttu. The two sides compared notes on the judicial work in their countries and signed a plan of cooperation in 1986 between the two ministries. The guests were cordially received by Justice Minister Phan Hien. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 0703 GMT 18 Feb 86] /9604

CZECH ENVOY ADDRESSES PRESS--Hanoi, 20 Feb (VNA)--Czechoslovak Ambassador to Vietnam Bohuslav Handl held a press conference here today on the 38th anniversary of the February revolution. The ambassador laid stress on the significance of the February revolution in the history of the revolutionary struggle of the Czechoslovak working class and labouring people. He said the February revolution in 1948 was an important turning point marking the total collapse of the bourgeoisie in Czechoslovakia and its attempt to steer the country back to the road of capitalism. He brought out the great achievements in all fields recorded by the Czechoslovak people over the past 38 years. He took this opportunity to reaffirm the Czechoslovak party, government and people's determination to strengthen the ties between Vietnam and Czechoslovakia, and their firm support for the efforts of the Vietnamese and the other Indochinese peoples aimed at turning Southeast Asia into a region of peace and stability. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 1520 GMT 20 Feb 86] /9604

COLLECTION OF GORBACHEV'S WORKS--Hanoi, 20 Feb (VNA)--In honour of the forthcoming 27th Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and the 55th anniversary of M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU, the Su That (Truth) Publishing House and the Institute of Marxism-Leninism under the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee have jointly published in Vietnamese two collections of his writings and speeches. The first, titled "The Strength, and Effect of Soviet-Vietnam Friendship" includes M.S. Gorbachev's speeches from 1982 to 1985 about the relations between the two countries and the joint Vietnam-USSR statement signed in June 1985. The other titled "In the Interests of Developed Socialism and World Peace" includes important speeches of the Soviet leader on the Soviet party and people's activities since the 26th CPSU Congress and his judicious and scientific evaluation of the existing socio-economic situation in the Soviet Union, on the Soviet people's great achievements in all fields, on the Soviet Union's policies on intensive development of the economy, on the Soviet policy regarding science and technology, and its foreign policy for peace. Also on this occasion, the General Post Department called a press conference here today to introduce the special set of postal stamps about the Soviet Union. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 1516 GMT 20 Feb 86] /9604

TRUONG CHINH SENDS GUYANA GREETINGS--Hanoi, 22 Feb (VNA)--President of the State Council Truong Chinh today extended his warm greetings to President Desmond Hoyte on the 16th anniversary of the republic day of the Cooperative Republic of Guyana (23 February). In his congratulatory message, Truong Chinh wishes for constant development of the friendly relations between the peoples of Vietnam and Guyana. On his occasion, Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach has also sent a message of greetings to his Guyanese counterpart, Rasly Jackson. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 1624 GMT 22 Feb 86 OW] /9274

VIETNAM-POLAND FRIENDSHIP HOSPITAL--Hanoi, 22 Feb (VNA)--The Vietnam-Poland Friendship Hospital was inaugurated this morning in the central Vietnam province of Nghe Tinh, about 300 km south of Hanoi. The 500-bed hospital, built with non-refunded aid from Poland, is furnished with modern equipment for various wards including consultation, treatment and administrative staff. It comprises 23 high building blocks installed in an area of 13,705 square metres. Present at the inaugural ceremony were Doctor Dang Hoi Huan, minister of public health; Nguyen Ba, chairman of the Nghe Tinh People's Committee; and others. The Polish side was represented by Professor Stanislaw Goura, first vice-minister of public health and social insurance; and Polish Ambassador to Vietnam Marian Ejma Multanaki. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 1600 GMT 22 Feb 86 OW] /9274

CSO: 4200/726

11 March 1986

AGRICULTURE

AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITIES FROM 10-20 FEB 86 REVIEWED

OW202307 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 20 Feb 86

[Text] Dear friends: According to the General Statistics Department, by 20 February the entire country had planted 1.4 million hectares of fifth month spring and winter-spring rice or 75 percent of the planned acreage, including 700,000 hectares in northern provinces and 705,000 hectares in southern provinces and cities. Under the favorable weather conditions, the northern provinces and cities have, after the Tet festival, accelerated the fifth month spring rice cultivation twice as fast as before Tet. Thanks to the availability of rice seedlings, draft power, electricity, and water, Ha Nam Ninh, Thai Binh, Thanh Hoa, Nghe Tinh, and Binh Tri Thien Provinces have basically completed the fifth month spring rice cultivation. The slow localities, including Ha Bac, Hanoi, and Ha Son Binh, have transplanted from 60 to 70 percent of the planned acreage. Noteworthy is that the northern provinces and cities have enjoyed many basic advantages of the fifth month spring rice production this year. Sufficient rice seedlings have been transplanted on the entire acreage in accordance with the cultivation patterns. From 80 to 90 percent of the rice acreage has been aerated. Supply of electricity for agricultural production has been ensured according to the signed contracts. As a result, many localities have transplanted rice seedlings in sufficient rows, at a proper density, and on the entire acreage. Currently, many localities have shifted to fertilizing, tending, and weeding the fifth month spring rice crop and to preventing and eradicating rice pests. However, some problems have appeared, including the shortage of fertilizers and insecticides. A number of localities, including Hai Hung, Thai Binh, Ha Nam Ninh, and Thanh Hoa are boosting the movement to grow azolla as fertilizer for the fifth month spring rice crop.

The southern provinces and cities have basically completed the winter-spring rice cultivation. However, as many as 200,000 hectares of late 10th-month rice in the Mekong Delta provinces of Kien Giang, Dong Thap, Hau Giang, Cuu Long, Ben Tre, and Minh Hai have not yet been harvested. These localities are now concentrating on harvesting this rice crop rapidly and neatly in order to shift to tending the main winter-spring rice crop.

According to the vegetation protection department, leaf folders and rice blast have damaged the winter-spring rice in the southern provinces and cities over the past 10 days. The northern provinces and cities should promptly prevent and detect rice blast, rice hispa, and stem borers in the days ahead.

Noteworthy is that the acreage of industrial crops in the north and that of secondary crops, vegetables, and beans in the south, including garlic and pepper, has diminished as compared with the same period last year. Localities are currently boosting the movement to grow vegetables, subsidiary crops, and short-term and long-term crops during the best cultivation period.

According to the meteorological and hydrological department, the weather conditions will remain favorable for agricultural production in the days ahead. Therefore, the northern provinces and cities should continue to accelerate and complete the planting of the spring rice on the entire acreage on schedule and should then shift to growing vegetables and subsidiary and industrial crops and to tending the fifth month spring rice crop.

Along with boosting the planting of vegetables and subsidiary and industrial crops, the southern provinces and cities are actively concentrating on preventing and eradicating harmful insects for the winter-spring rice crop. Despite the current favorable weather conditions, localities are exerting great efforts in cultivation after the Tet festival. Instead of disregarding the cultivation schedule and the care for the rice crop, they are striving to achieve a successful fifth month spring rice crop in all aspects.

/9604

CSO: 4209/324

HEAVY INDUSTRY AND CONSTRUCTION

BRIEFS

HYDROELECTRIC POWER STATION--Hanoi, 21 Feb (VNA)--The first engine group of a 360-kw hydro-electric power station being built in Giang District, Quang Nam-Da Nang Province (Central Vietnam) has been commissioned. The designed capacity of the first group is estimated at 180/kw. This is the first power station built in a mountainous region in service of people of ethnic minorities in Quang Nam-Da Nang Province. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 0702 GMT 21 Feb 86 OW] /9274

PHA LAI ELECTRIC PLANT--Hanoi, 23 Feb (VNA)--The Pha Lai thermal electric plant built with Soviet assistance has since its commission generated almost three billion kwh, accounting for nearly 60 percent of the total electric output in Vietnam last year. After putting the second generator group into operation by the end of 1984 and the third generator group by the end of last year, the Pha Lai plant has played a leading role in the electricity grid in northern provinces. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 0711 GMT 23 Feb 86 OW] /9274

CSO: 4200/726

TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS

BRIEFS

NEW BRIDGE FOR LAOS--Hanoi, 21 Feb (VNA)--A new bridge has been completed at Nam Tuong on Highway 8 from the Lao Province of Bolikhan to Vietnam's seaport of Cua Lo, Nghe Tinh Province. The highway is the shortest and [most] convenient access way of Laos to the sea chiefly for the export of timber. The bridge is 40 metres long and 9.5 metres wide, capable of carrying two lanes of motor traffic. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 0713 GMT 21 Feb 86 OW] /9274

CSO: 4200/726

BIOGRAPHIC

INFORMATION ON VIETNAMESE PERSONALITIES

[The following information on Vietnamese personalities has been extracted from Vietnamese-language sources published in Hanoi, unless otherwise indicated. Asterisked job title indicates that this is the first known press reference to this individual functioning in this capacity.]

Bui Cong Ai [BUIF COONG AIS], *Major General

His article "Offensive Pace" in January 1986 TAP CHI QUAN DOI NHAN DAN was advertised in the cited source. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 8 Jan 86 p 2)

Nguyen Khac Canh [NGUYEENX KHAWCS CANHR], Colonel, deceased

Born in 1926 at Nam Lac Village, Nam Dan District, Nghe Tinh Province; former cadre of the 3d Military Region Headquarters; he died on 19 December 1985. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 22 Dec 85 p 4)

Dinh Thi Can [DINH THIJ CAANR]

Chairwoman of the Central Committee for the Protection of Mothers and Children; recently she attended a closing conference on the "care and education demand for children of 6 and under." (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 15 Dec 85 p 1)

Tran Van Can [TRAANF VAWN CAANR]

President of the Vietnam Association of Graphic Artists; on 20 December 1985 he attended a ceremony to mark the 40th anniversary of the Fine Art University in Hanoi. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 21 Dec 85 pp 1, 4)

Nguyen Tho Chan [NGUYEENX THOJ CHAAN]

*Head of the Central Committee Emulation Department; on 16 January 1986 he attended a press conference at his department. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 9 Jan 86 p 1)

Trinh Van Diep [TRINHJ VAWN ZIEEPJ], alias Le Trung Vu [LEE TRUNG VUX],
Colonel, deceased

Born in 1928 at Cu Da Village, Thanh Tri District, Hanoi Municipality; member of the CPV Committee; high ranking cadre of the Political Bureau of the Signal and Communication Branch; he died on 2 January 1986 following an illness.
(QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 3 Jan 86 p 4)

Nguyen Van Dan [NGUYEENX VAWN DANF]

Vice minister of public health; professor; on 11 December 1985 he spoke at a ceremony to commemorate the 265th birthday of the former famous physician Hai Thuong Lan Ong held in Hanoi. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 12 Dec 85 p 4)

Y Ngong Niet Dam [Y NGOONG NIEETS DAWM]

*Member of the CPV Central Committee; secretary of the Provincial Committee, Dac Lac Province; on 13 January 1986 he was present to welcome a visiting delegation from the GDR to his province. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 15 Jan 86 p 1)

Duong Han [ZUWOWNG HANS], *Major General

Commander of the Schools Department; recently he accompanied Senior General Le Trong Tan to visit Official Political School. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 13 Jan 86 p 1)

Nguyen Xuan Hien [NGUYEENX XUAAN HIEENR], *Lieutenant Colonel

Commander of the X.8 Group; he was mentioned in an article about the young pilots in his unit. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 17 Dec 85 p 2)

Than Quang Hieu [THAAN QUANG HIEEUX]

*Vice minister of agriculture; on 31 December 1985 to 1 January 1986 he met with a delegation from the PRK Agriculture Ministry to discuss cooperation between two countries for 1986. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 6 Jan 86 p 4)

Nguyen Ho [NGUYEENX HOOJ]

Chairman of the Fatherland Front Committee, Ho Chi Minh City; on 23 December 1985 he was presented with a Friendship Award by Soviet ambassador. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 29 Dec 85 p 4)

Ngo Hung [NGOO HUNGF]

Commander of the Combat Training Department; recently he accompanied Senior General Le Trong Tan to visit the Officer Political School. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 13 Jan 86 p 1)

Dang Huong [DAWNGJ HUWOWNG], *Colonel

Deputy commander-in-chief and commander of the Technical Materials Department, T Group; he was mentioned in an article about T Group. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 17 Dec 85 p 3)

Dang Kinh [DAWNGJ KINH], Lieutenant General

His article on stimulation for victory in January 1986 TAP CHI QUAN DOI NHAN DAN was advertised in the cited source. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 8 Jan 86 p 2)

Nguyen Nhu Kinh [NGUYEENX NHUW KINHS], *Major General

His article on "Party and Political Missions in Opposing Sabotage Warfare" in January 1986 TAP CHI QUAN DOI NHAN DAN was advertised in the cited source. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 8 Jan 86 p 2)

Nguyen Nhu Lieu [NGUYEENR NHUW LIEEU], Colonel, deceased

Born in 1943 at Thanh Ha Village, Thanh Chuong District, Nghe Tinh Province; cadre of the Advanced Military Institute; member of the CPV Committee; he died on 21 December 1985 following a traffic accident. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 24 Dec 85 p 4)

Hoang Dinh Luyen [HOANGF DINHF LUYEENS], Colonel

Commander of the Planning Institute, Ministry of National Defense; his article on "General Accounting" in his unit appeared in the cited source. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 16 Dec 85 p 3)

Do Van Luong [DOOX VAWN LUWOWNG], Colonel, deceased

Born in 1918 at Nguyen Ly Village, Ly Nhan District, Ha Nam Ninh Province; member of the CPV Committee; former member of the Signal Command; he died on 30 December 1985 following an illness. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 1 Jan 86 p 4)

Vu Van My [VUX VAWN MYX], Lieutenant Colonel

His article "New Point in Directing Militia and Self-Defense Forces Training" appeared in the cited source. (HANOI MOI 11 Dec 85 p 2)

Le Huu Ngo [LEE HUWUX NGOJ]

*Chairman of the People's Committee, Vinh Phu Province; recently he headed a delegation to visit Lauang Namtha Province, Laos, on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of National Day of the LPDR. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 11 Dec 85 p 4)

Vu Nha [VUX NHAJ], Colonel

SRV Military Attache in Cambodia; recently he attended a meeting at the Kampuchean Ministry of Defense to mark the 41st anniversary of the VPA. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 20 Dec 85 p 1)

Nguyen Van Nham [NGUYEENX VAWN NHAAM], *Colonel

Commander of the N.65 Group; his name was mentioned in an article about his unit. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 8 Jan 86 p 3)

Van Phac [VAWN PHACS]

*Vice minister of culture; his article on the cultural education of northern border area appeared in the cited source. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 16 Jan 86 p 3)

Do Truong Quan [DOOX TRUWOWNGF QUAAN], *Major General

Of the Q Group; his article about young officers in his unit appeared in the cited source. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 18 Dec 85 p 2)

[Note: This individual was previously reported as a member of the Quyet Thang Corps]

Tran Van Que [TRAANF VAWN QUEE]

*Vice minister of forestry; on 24 December 1985 he signed a bill for the protection of forestry with a UN representative in Hanoi. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 25 Dec 85 p 4)

Pham Song [PHAMJ SONG]

Vice minister of public health; on 16 December 1985 he spoke at a conference on traditional medicine in Vietnam. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 17 Dec 85 p 4)

Le Dinh So [LEE DINHF SOOS], *Major General

Commander of the Political Cadre Department; recently he accompanied Senior General Le Trong Tan to visit the Officer Political School. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 13 Jan 86 p 1)

Nguyen Trong Sy [NGUYEENX TRONGJ SYX], Colonel, deceased

Born in 1923 at Trang Son Village, Do Luong District, Nghe Tinh Province; member of the CPV Committee; former member of the General Staff Research Department; he died on 3 December 1985. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 15 Dec 85 p 4)

Bui Xuan Tam [BUIF XUAAN TAMS], *Colonel

Commander of the 103d Military Hospital; on 12 December 1985 he spoke at a conference to report the progress of scientific research at his unit. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 14 Dec 85 p 1)

Hoang Huu Thai [HOANGF HUWUX THAIS], *Rear Admiral

Acting commander of the Navy; on 31 December 1985 he spoke at an award ceremony honoring the Navy. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 1 Jan 86 p 1)

Nguyen Van Thai [NGUYEENX VAWN THAIS], Major General

His article "Political Education Improvement" in the TAP CHI QUAN DOI NHAN DAN, January 1986 was advertised in the cited source. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 8 Jan 86 p 2)

Pham Minh Thanh [PHAMJ MINH THANH], Colonel, deceased

Born in 1918 at Nga Thanh Village, Nga Son District, Thanh Hoa Province; member of the CPV Committee; retired deputy commander, political, of the 4th Military Region; he died on 10 December 1985 following an illness. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 13 Dec 85 p 4)

Phan Van Thi [PHAN VAWN THIS], Colonel, deceased

Born in 1927 at Phu Thanh Village, Huong Phu District, Binh Tri Thien Province; member of the CPV Committee; deputy commander of the Air Defense Technical Department; he died following an illness on 12 January 1986 at the 108th Hanoi Military Hospital. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 15 Jan 86 p 4)

Nguyen Trong Thuat [NGUYEENX TRONGJ THUAATJ]

SRV ambassador to Poland; on 4 January 1986 he welcomed an SRV delegation headed by Political Bureau member Chu Huy Man to Poland. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 9 Jan 86 p 1)

Ha Huy Thuoc [HAF HUY THOWUCJ], Lieutenant Colonel

Head of the office of Mobilization and Recruitment, Capital Military Region; his article "Four Years of Implementation of Military Duty" appeared in the cited source. (HANOI 11 Dec 85 p 2)

Le Van Tri [LEE VAWN TRIF], Lieutenant General

Commander of the Technical General Department, Ministry of National Defense; on 21 December 1985 he spoke at an award ceremony at his department. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 22 Dec 85 p 4)

Phan Tan Trinh [PHAN TAANS TRINHF]

*Chairman of the People's Committee, Dac Lac Province; on 13 January 1986 he was present to welcome a visiting delegation from the GDR to his province. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 15 Jan 86 p 1)

Nguyen Tu [NGUYEENX TU]

Vice minister of foreign trade; on 16 December 1985 he signed a protocol with the GDR on the exchange of goods and payments agreement between the two countries in the GDR. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 18 Dec 85 p 4)

Nghiem Tuc [NGHIEEM TUCS], Colonel, deceased

Born in 1930 at Nghia Yen Village, Duc Tho District, Nghe Tinh Province; member of the CPV Committee; deputy editor-in-chief of the QUAN DOI NHAN DAN newspaper; he died on 11 January 1986 following an illness at the 108th Military Hospital. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 13 Jan 86 p 4)

Tran Minh Van [TRAANF MINH VAAN], *Colonel

Commander of the Chien Thang Group; he was mentioned in an article about his unit in the cited source. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 11 Dec 85 p 2)

Hoang Xuan [HOANGJ XUAAN], Colonel, deceased

Born in 1917 at Trieu Trung Village, Trieu Hai District, Binh Tri Thien Province; former member of the Rear Services General Department; he died on 8 January 1986 at the 108th Military Hospital. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 12 Jan 86 p 4)

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